WHEREAS, The Washington State Achievers Scholarship Program was founded in 2000 to assist high school students striving for higher education; and
WHEREAS, The Achievers Scholarship Program was created through a collaborative effort by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the College Success Foundation; and
WHEREAS, Sixteen high schools in Washington are Achievers schools with a focus on preparing students for a college education with mentors and scholarship opportunities; and
WHEREAS, The Achievers Scholarship Program aims to create a positive environment and provide funding for children of low-income families to attend college; and
WHEREAS, The Achievers Scholarship Program works actively with teachers to enforce the three Rs: Rigor in courses, relevance of the courses and coursework, and relationships in creating a college-going culture; and
WHEREAS, Before the creation of the program, only nine percent of children from low-income families earned a bachelor's degree; and
WHEREAS, Seventy-five percent of the participants in the Achievers Scholarship Program are expected to receive a bachelor's degree; and
WHEREAS, The Achievers Scholarship Program is a highly successful effort to increase college enrollment of students in Washington and has earned recognition for its contributions to education and youth;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support the role of the Washington State Achievers Scholarship Program; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to all sixteen Achievers' high schools, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the College Success Foundation.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4631 adopted by the House of Representatives
March 11, 2009

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Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk