

RESOLUTION NO. 695

WHEREAS, in 1772, Captain George Vancouver documented S’Klallam habitation in the area known as Kah Tai which he renamed Port Townsend; and

WHEREAS, the S’Klallam Chief Chetzemoka greeted and befriended the first non-natives to settle in Port Townsend in the 1850’s; and

WHEREAS, Chetzemoka’s wise diplomacy led to peaceful relations between the natives and the newcomers; and

WHEREAS, Chief Chetzemoka, a chief known as a peaceful man and a wise diplomat, was believed to be about 80 when he was buried in 1888 at Laurel Grove Cemetery in Port Townsend; and

WHEREAS, from 1938 until 1947 the Wood Electric Class ferry Chetzemoka served the Port Townsend community honoring the memory of Chief Chetzemoka; and

WHEREAS, Les Prince a direct descendant of Chief Chetzemoka, expresses his support of naming the new ferry after his great-great grandfather; and

WHEREAS, the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, Jefferson County Commissioners, the Port Townsend community and the Jefferson County Historical Society have rallied together in support of this naming.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Transportation Commission recognizes Chief Chetzemoka’s role in the early history of the territory and that the name Chetzemoka honors the natives of the region and their seafaring skills and traditions and also continues the proud name of the historic ferry that served Port Townsend.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington State Transportation Commission respectfully names the 64-car ferry, the newest addition to the Washington State ferry fleet, the Chetzemoka.

ADOPTED this 20th day of October 2009

WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROL MOSER, Chair

ROBERT S. DISTLER, Vice-Chair

PHILIP PARKER, Member

ELMIRA FORNER, Member

DAN O’NEAL, Member

RICHARD FORD, Member

LATISHA HILL, Member

PAULA HAMMOND
Ex-Officio Member
Secretary of Transportation

TERESA BERNTSEN, Governor’s Designee

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

REEMA GRIFFITH, Executive Director

Assistant Attorney General