WHEREAS, World War II was the deadliest military conflict in history, causing an estimated 70 – 85 million deaths, and engaging more than 16 million American men and women who answered the call to duty to fight in World War II; and

WHEREAS, 407,316 uniformed men and women and 12,100 civilians from our nation died during the war; and

WHEREAS, 3,941 men and women from Washington State gave their lives in World War II, including 51 from Klickitat County, and fewer than 6,000 Washington State World War II veterans, including less than 10 from Klickitat county, survive today; and

WHEREAS, by their service and sacrifices in the cause of freedom our World War II veterans have exemplified the fulfillment of civic responsibilities our nation expects and Washingtonians remain grateful today to members of the Greatest Generation who sacrificed and served the nation and who continue to live among us; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon has commemorated this sacrifice and service with 28 signs on US Highway 97 which read “WORLD WAR II VETERANS HISTORIC HIGHWAY”; and

WHEREAS, members of local communities and the County Commissioners of Klickitat County seek to name US Highway 97 from the Oregon border at milepost 0 to milepost 33.5 in Klickitat County the “WORLD WAR II VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY” to signify forever the importance of their contribution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington State Transportation Commission does hereby name US Highway 97 from the Oregon border at milepost 0 to milepost 33.5 the “WORLD WAR II VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington State Transportation Commission requests the Washington State Department of Transportation to provide signing reflecting this naming designation as soon as possible.

ADOPTED this 19th of February, 2020.

WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JERRY LITT, Chairman  ROY JENNINGS, Vice-Chairman

SHIV BATRA, Member  HESTER SEREBRIN, Member

JOE TORTORELLI, Member  DEBBIE YOUNG, Member

JAMES A. RESTUCCI, Member

ATTEST:  APPROVED AS TO FORM:

REEMA GRIFFITH, Executive Director  Assistant Attorney General

RESOLUTION NO. 738