Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board

WHEREAS, Larry Brown has dedicated his life's work to serving Washington's working families as a labor leader, public servant and proud member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers; and

WHEREAS, Larry was elected president of the Washington State Labor Council and served from 2019-22; during [MP1.1] his tenure he represented more than 600,000 working people throughout the state, and through this role, was appointed to serve as co-chair of the Washington Workforce Board; and

WHEREAS, Larry's record of service is exemplary: Serving in the U.S. Navy from 1973-77; working as a machinist at Boeing; serving as business representative and political director for IAM District 751; helping establish the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee; serving as Green River College trustee and chair of the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; and

WHEREAS, these accomplishments did not distract Larry from his true mission in life: Stand up for working people. His campaign messages when running for Auburn City Council were direct: "If you work hard and play by the rules, you should be able to put food on your table and a roof over your head," and, "The best social program is a good paying job."; and

WHEREAS, Larry courageously stood his ground to fight for worker pensions in one of the biggest labor battles in Washington history, to the very end, even as others gave in; and

WHEREAS, the people of Washington needed Larry's help more than ever in March 2020 when a pandemic swept the state and largely closed the economy, throwing thousands out of work; and

WHEREAS, Larry stood tall, fighting for personal protective equipment, safe working conditions and opening businesses so people could feed their families; and

WHEREAS, later at the Workforce Board, Larry worked closely with his friend and colleague Gary Chandler to advance workforce development, especially for young people; and

WHEREAS, Larry served on the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence scholarship committee for many years, and in 2023 rode his Harley-Davidson to the Monroe School District to hand out a record number of awards in this community, showing his dedication to the state's outstanding career and technical education students.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the members of the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, gratefully acknowledge Larry Brown's lifetime of public service to the United States and the people of Washington.

Signed this 3rd day of April 2026.

April Sims
Co-Chair

Morgan Irwin
Co-Chair