

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND RECOGNIZING DR. TOM CADE AS ONE OF
2 THE WORLD'S MOST VISIONARY CONSERVATIONISTS AND WIDELY RESPECTED SCI-
3 ENTISTS, AND HONORING THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS THAT HE MADE TO THE
4 STATE OF IDAHO, THE COUNTRY, AND THE WORLD AT LARGE IN HIS IMPORTANT, NO-
5 TABLE, AND LASTING RAPTOR CONSERVATION EFFORTS.
6

7 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 WHEREAS, in 1970, Dr. Tom Cade cofounded The Peregrine Fund, a non-
9 profit, nonpolitical, and solution-oriented organization, to restore the
10 Peregrine Falcon, which was removed from the U.S. Endangered Species List
11 in 1999, and to effectively manage the financial support being offered by
12 the public. The organization grew to become much more than Dr. Cade origi-
13 nally envisioned, and over the past five decades it has worked with more than
14 100 species in 65 countries worldwide. Many species such as the Mauritius
15 Kestrel, Northern Aplomado Falcon, California Condor, several species of
16 Asian vultures, and more are thriving today because of the work The Peregrine
17 Fund and its many partners have undertaken; and

18 WHEREAS, prior to cofounding the fund, Peregrine Falcon populations
19 had declined drastically in the 1950s and 1960s due to the widespread use of
20 DDT, a pesticide that interfered with calcium metabolism and caused birds to
21 lay very thin-shelled eggs that cracked during incubation. By 1970, Pere-
22 grine Falcons were extinct in the eastern United States, and fewer than 40
23 pairs were estimated to remain in the West. Dr. Cade, an ornithologist and
24 lifelong falconer, was acutely aware of this decline and worked with others
25 across the nation to ban the use of DDT and develop a recovery plan for the
26 nation's fastest animal; and

27 WHEREAS, in the late 1970s, Dr. Cade and his team of biologists and fal-
28 coners bred, raised, and released a Peregrine Falcon pair into a Peregrine
29 Falcon nest box on top of a release tower in Brigantine National Wildlife
30 Refuge in New Jersey. These two birds were part of a nationwide recovery pro-
31 gram for the species. In the spring of 1980, the scientists discovered atop
32 the release tower three young nestlings being raised by the Peregrine Falcon
33 pair. The nestlings were some of the first Peregrine chicks produced in the
34 wild in eastern North America since the 1950s; and

35 WHEREAS, in August of 1999, Dr. Cade stood on stage with then-Secretary
36 of the Interior Bruce Babbitt to officially declare that the Peregrine Fal-
37 con was recovered in North America and had been removed from the Endangered
38 Species List. To this day, it is considered among the greatest conservation
39 success stories of all time; and

40 WHEREAS, drawing on past lessons and successes, The Peregrine Fund's
41 vision for the coming decades applies its expertise to emerging and accel-
42 erating conservation problems faced by raptors and communities around the
43 globe. It is ambitious, specific, unifying, inspirational, measurable,

1 and, most importantly, empowering to the people and communities who bring it
2 to life; and

3 WHEREAS, three key aims of The Peregrine Fund are: to conserve raptors
4 by preventing raptor extinctions, protecting areas of high raptor conser-
5 vation value, and addressing landscape-level threats that impact multiple
6 species; to engage people by inspiring them to value raptors and take ac-
7 tion, serving as catalysts for change, and investing in tomorrow's conserva-
8 tion leaders; and to cultivate excellence by assembling infrastructure, fa-
9 cilities, and people and by raising sufficient funds to execute actions and
10 achieve measurable, timebound goals on an iterative five-year cycle; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Tom Cade passed away on February 6, 2019, at the age of 91.
12 Since his first ornithological survey of St. Lawrence Island in the Bering
13 Sea in 1950, Dr. Cade's passion for natural history and his professional
14 career spanned nearly 70 years. His career involved teaching at Syracuse
15 University and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in New York, post-doctoral
16 research on desert birds and raptors in southern Africa, starting the
17 Peregrine breeding program at Cornell University, cofounding and leading
18 The Peregrine Fund, and researching the critically endangered Mauritius
19 Kestrel.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Ses-
21 sion of the Sixty-fifth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and
22 the Senate concurring therein, that we recognize Dr. Tom Cade as one of the
23 world's most visionary conservationists and widely respected scientists and
24 honor the significant contributions that he has made to the State of Idaho,
25 the country, and the world at large in his important, notable, and lasting
26 raptor conservation efforts.