

## SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

## RESOLUTION NO. 25-030

## A RESOLUTION OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL RECOGNIZING AND HONORING BILL TSOUKALAS

WHEREAS, Bill Tsoukalas grew up in the Wallingford neighborhood of Seattle as the eldest of ten children and was a talented athlete from a young age, spending countless hours practicing baseball at the Wallingford Boys & Girls Club, where his passion for the organization first took root; and

WHEREAS, nicknamed the "Golden Greek" by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Bill was a two-year letterman for Everett Junior College's baseball team, helping capture the Washington Athletic Association of Community Colleges title; he then became one of Seattle University's finest baseball players, earning the team's Most Valuable Player award twice and graduating with a degree in education; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill briefly taught elementary physical education before beginning his professional baseball career with the Cleveland Indians, which ended prematurely due to a career-ending injury in 1973; and

WHEREAS, undeterred by this setback, Bill returned to the place he always felt welcomed—the Boys & Girls Club—as athletic director and earned his Master of Education from Seattle University in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Bill began his professional journey in public service at Boys and Girls Clubs of King County, working his way up through the organization's administration in the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Bill became Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County (BGCSC), and under his enthusiastic and visionary leadership, the organization grew from four Clubs to 27 Clubs with 14 school-based sites; and

**WHEREAS**, the BGCSC has thrived under Bill's guidance, fulfilling its mission "to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens"; and

WHEREAS, Bill has earned national recognition for his work with Tribes, leading to the establishment of eight BGCSC Clubs on Native Lands, including the Tulalip, Lummi, Swinomish, Spokane, Colville, and Warm Springs reservations; and

WHEREAS, Bill's exceptional ability to build lasting relationships with donors, community leaders, and elected officials has resulted in generational investments in the Boys & Girls Clubs, ensuring their longevity and continued impact for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, Bill has been honored with numerous awards for his lifetime of service and dedication to youth, including induction into the Seattle University Hall of Fame, Everett Community College Hall of Fame, Boys & Girls Clubs of Washington Alumni Hall of Fame, and recognition as a Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAACC) member; he is also a recipient of the BGCA Herman S. Prescott Regional Award, two BGCA Service to the Profession Awards, the BGCA Horizon Award, and the Leadership Snohomish County Excellence in Leadership Award, among others; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of his decades of service, the Bill Tsoukalas Endowment Fund was established to ensure ongoing support for future generations of youth through the BGCSC;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Snohomish County Council hereby recognizes and honors Bill Tsoukalas for his unwavering commitment to the youth of Snohomish County, his extraordinary leadership of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County, and the remarkable legacy he leaves behind, and wishes Bill and his wife Judy the very best in retirement as they enjoy time with their two children and four grandchildren.

APPROVED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2025.

Nate Nehring Council Chair

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Councilmember

Councilmember

**Megan Dunn** Council Vice-Chair

**Jared Mead** Councilmember

ATTEST: // \

Elena Lao, CMC

Deputy Clerk of the Council