

# House Concurrent Resolution 10

Sponsored by Representative BERGER, Senator WINTERS; Representatives BRUUN, BUTLER, ESQUIVEL, JENSON, OLSON, READ, WITT

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

In memoriam: Robert Y. Thornton, 1910-2003.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas Robert Y. Thornton was one of only two Oregonians to serve in all three branches of  
3 government; and

4       Whereas Robert Thornton was born in Portland in 1910, attended Stanford University and the  
5 University of Oregon, and earned his law degree from George Washington University; and

6       Whereas Robert Thornton met fellow student Dorothy Haberlach while attending the University  
7 of Oregon, and they were married in 1937; and

8       Whereas Robert Thornton served in the United States Army for five years during World War  
9 II and attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel; and

10       Whereas Robert Thornton was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 1950; and

11       Whereas Robert Thornton served for 16 years as Oregon Attorney General and was the second  
12 longest-serving Attorney General in Oregon's history; and

13       Whereas Robert Thornton, while serving as Attorney General, pioneered efforts to collect de-  
14 linquent child support payments from parents, to eliminate racketeering of health insurance and to  
15 drive organized prostitution out of Oregon; and

16       Whereas Robert Thornton was particularly proud that as Attorney General he hired and pro-  
17 moted an unprecedented number of women and minorities to serve on his staff; and

18       Whereas Robert Thornton was elected to the Oregon Court of Appeals in 1970, serving until his  
19 retirement in 1983; and

20       Whereas Robert Thornton after his retirement continued to be active by advocating for inmate  
21 work programs and drafting legislation to require parenting classes for high school seniors; and

22       Whereas Robert Thornton spoke Japanese fluently, was the author of *Preventing Crime in*  
23 *America And Japan* and lectured at several Japanese universities; and

24       Whereas Robert Thornton, because of his contributions to Japanese-American understanding,  
25 received the Order of the Sacred Treasure from the Emperor of Japan in 1976; and

26       Whereas Robert Thornton was thought of by his friends and colleagues as a kind and gentle  
27 man and a credit to the human race; and

28       Whereas we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, wish to recognize Robert  
29 Y. Thornton as a person who lived an exemplary life for 93 years and as one of Oregon's most dis-  
30 tinguished public servants of the 20th century, having held elective office from 1950 to 1983; now,  
31 therefore,

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

2 That we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, recognize, honor and express  
3 our state's gratitude to Robert Y. Thornton for his contributions to Oregon history through his legal  
4 abilities, his longevity and his commitment; and be it further

5 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to his son, Tom Thornton, as an ex-  
6 pression of our esteem and appreciation.

7

---