

Senate Concurrent Resolution 10

Sponsored by Senator GORDLY

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**.

Mourns the flooding of Celilo Falls in 1957 and its loss to the tribal people of Oregon.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas Wyam, the great falls of N'ch-iwana, known to us as Celilo Falls of the Columbia River,
3 thundered for millennia in the spiritual heart of the Northwest and was a natural wonder of the
4 world; and

5 Whereas throughout the millennia Celilo Falls was the primary place where Native People
6 caught the giant chinook, blue-back and coho salmon that struggled upstream through the rocky
7 barrier of tumbling waters and swift, narrow channels. The Native People's record of habitation
8 proves Wyam to be one of the longest continuously inhabited communities on this continent; and

9 Whereas for its thousands of years of human civilization, Wyam was one of the world's great
10 market places, and a half-dozen tribes had permanent villages near the falls where some 5,000 people
11 would gather to trade, feast and participate in games and religious ceremonies; and

12 Whereas the multitudes of salmon caught at Celilo Falls helped make the Lower Columbia River
13 among the wealthiest places in what is now the United States and fostered a blossoming of rock art
14 culminating in the petroglyph Tsagaglallal, or She-Who-Watches, and other great works; and

15 Whereas the images of the dip netters reaching from their vibrating scaffolds into the roiling
16 river are an icon of the native Northwest; and

17 Whereas on March 10, 1957, the waters held back by The Dalles Dam flooded and perpetually
18 silenced the awesome and sacred roar of Celilo Falls, severing a great spiritual connection between
19 the Creator, Mother Earth and the Native Peoples of Oregon; and

20 Whereas the silence of the dead falls is rivaled only by the silence in the hearts of the elders
21 who remember the thunder of the falls and the vibrant community struck down by the dam; and

22 Whereas the Tribes of the Columbia River and the people of Celilo Village will hold a memorial
23 for Celilo Falls on March 10, 2007; now, therefore,

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

24
25 That we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, mourn the flooding of Celilo
26 Falls and recognize the falls' great importance to the native peoples of Oregon in providing
27 sustenance from the salmon and a gathering place for all Tribes and agree to observe a moment of
28 silence on March 10, 2007; and be it further

29 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the Tribal Council of the Con-
30 federated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes
31 of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon and the Tribal Council of the Nez Perce Tribe.

32

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.