

# Senate Concurrent Resolution 15

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**.

In memoriam: Judge Mercedes Deiz, 1917-2005.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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2       Whereas Judge Mercedes Deiz passed away on October 5, 2005, at the age of 87, leaving a long  
3 legacy of service to the legal profession; and

4       Whereas Judge Mercedes Deiz, after graduating fourth in her class at Northwestern School of  
5 Law, combined community activism with her practice as a trial lawyer; and

6       Whereas Judge Mercedes Deiz became the first black female lawyer in Oregon when she was  
7 admitted to the bar in 1960 and became the first woman of color to become a judge in Oregon when  
8 she was appointed as a district court judge in 1969; and

9       Whereas Judge Mercedes Deiz was elected as a Multnomah County Circuit Court judge, de-  
10 feating seven male challengers for the position; and

11       Whereas Judge Mercedes Deiz became an advocate for youth, spending much of her time on the  
12 bench presiding over family law cases; and

13       Whereas Judge Mercedes Deiz served on the Governor's Committee on Children and Youth and  
14 the Metropolitan Youth Commission; and

15       Whereas Judge Mercedes Deiz was a founding member of the National Association for Women  
16 Judges and a founding board member of Oregon Women Lawyers, and was actively involved in the  
17 National Bar Association, the Oregon Minority Lawyers Association and the Owen M. Panner  
18 American Inn of Court; and

19       Whereas Judge Mercedes Deiz taught trial techniques at Harvard Law School as a Woodrow  
20 Wilson Visiting Fellow; and

21       Whereas colleagues of Judge Mercedes Deiz state that she exemplified the qualities that make  
22 the very best lawyers: common sense, practicality, a quick wit, decisiveness, compassion, concern for  
23 the community and an abiding love and respect of the law; now, therefore,

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

25       That we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, mourn the passing of Judge  
26 Mercedes Deiz and honor her lifelong dedication to her community and to the legal profession.

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**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.