

Senate Concurrent Resolution 19

Sponsored by Senator WHITSETT, Representative RILEY; Senators ATKINSON, AVAKIAN, BATES, BEYER, BROWN, BURDICK, CARTER, COURTNEY, DECKERT, DEVLIN, FERRIOLI, G GEORGE, L GEORGE, GORDLY, JOHNSON, KRUSE, METSGER, MONNES ANDERSON, MONROE, MORRISETTE, MORSE, NELSON, PROZANSKI, SCHRADER, STARR, VERGER, WALKER, WESTLUND, WINTERS, Representatives BARKER, BARNHART, BEYER, BONAMICI, BOONE, BOQUIST, BRUUN, BUCKLEY, BURLEY, BUTLER, CAMERON, CANNON, CLEM, COWAN, DALLUM, DINGFELDER, C EDWARDS, D EDWARDS, ESQUIVEL, GALIZIO, GARRARD, GELSER, GILLIAM, GILMAN, GIROD, HOLVEY, JENSON, KOTEK, KRIEGER, KRUMMEL, LIM, MACPHERSON, MAURER, MERKLEY, MORGAN, NATHANSON, NELSON, NOLAN, OLSON, READ, RICHARDSON, ROBLAN, ROSENBAUM, SCHAUFLEER, SCOTT, SHIELDS, G SMITH, TOMEI, WHISNANT, 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: Leslie (Les) Schwab, 1917-2007.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas Leslie (Les) Schwab, a native son of Oregon, was born in Bend, Oregon, on October
3 3, 1917, and passed away on May 18, 2007; and

4 Whereas Les Schwab began his schooling in a railroad boxcar at Brooks-Scanlon's central
5 Oregon logging camp; and

6 Whereas Les Schwab, orphaned at age 15, supported himself and his siblings by delivering the
7 Oregon Journal newspaper; and

8 Whereas Les Schwab's efficiency and tenacity resulted in his eventual takeover of all nine
9 newspaper routes in Bend; and

10 Whereas Les Schwab found the determination to complete his education and graduated from
11 Bend High School in 1935; and

12 Whereas Les Schwab married his high school sweetheart, Dorothy Harlan, and was the father
13 of two children, Harlan and Margaret; and

14 Whereas Les Schwab served his country honorably with the Air Cadets in World War II; and

15 Whereas upon his return from the war, Les Schwab spent nine years in Bend as the circulation
16 manager of The Bulletin; and

17 Whereas Les Schwab began his business ventures in 1952 with his purchase of the franchise
18 shop O.K. Rubber Welders in Prineville for \$11,000; and

19 Whereas in 1956 Les Schwab separated from the franchise and changed the store name to Les
20 Schwab Tire Centers, eventually expanding into seven states, with 410 stores and sales in 2006 in
21 excess of \$1.6 billion; and

22 Whereas J.D. Power and Associates for four consecutive years ranked Les Schwab Tire Centers
23 as the best national passenger vehicle and light truck tire retailer in customer satisfaction; and

24 Whereas Les Schwab was awarded the national Dealer of the Year by Modern Tire Dealer
25 magazine in 2000; and

26 Whereas Les Schwab survived the death of his son, Harlan, who was the 31-year-old vice presi-
27 dent of Les Schwab Tire Centers when he was killed in an automobile accident in 1971; and

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 Whereas Les Schwab survived the death of his daughter, Margie Denton, who had served as
2 chairperson of Les Schwab Tire Centers and who passed away in 2005; and

3 Whereas Les Schwab suffered a heart attack and was forced to give up day-to-day operations
4 of the company but continued to come to work every day; and

5 Whereas Les Schwab understood that his employees were his company's greatest asset; and

6 Whereas Les Schwab created the Les Schwab Retirement Trust, putting aside 15 percent of his
7 employees' earnings into an employee trust fund account; and

8 Whereas Les Schwab, outraged at the cost of liability insurance, decided to self-insure his
9 company; and

10 Whereas the employee benefits that Les Schwab offered, such as no-premium medical coverage
11 for his employees and their families, were second to none; and

12 Whereas Les Schwab shared generously with employees through the employee profit share pro-
13 gram; and

14 Whereas Les Schwab valued and rewarded the principles of self-reliance and loyalty; and

15 Whereas Les Schwab's company was invaluable for its stabilization of the economy of Prineville,
16 Oregon, after the loss of the timber industry; and

17 Whereas Les Schwab gave back to his community in countless ways; and

18 Whereas when Les Schwab passed away May 18, 2007, his wife Dorothy and his grandchildren
19 and great-grandchildren were at his side; now, therefore,

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

21 That we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, express our gratitude for Les
22 Schwab's years of service to Oregon's business economy, for the profound substance of his work, for
23 his belief in his employees and love of the customer, for the lasting effect his efforts and service
24 will have on the industries of Oregon and for the extraordinary example he has set for all
25 Oregonians who endeavor to serve their communities and their employees through entrepreneurship;
26 and be it further

27 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to Les Schwab's wife, Dorothy, and to their
28 grandchildren, Diana, Alan, Leslie and Julie.

29
