

House Bill 2486

Sponsored by Representative CLEM (at the request of George Bell)

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**.

Establishes Distinguished Oregonian Medal to recognize and celebrate high-level contributions and achievements of Oregonians.

Establishes Distinguished Oregonian Commission to annually determine recipient of Distinguished Oregonian Medal.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to commission for certain purposes.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2009.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to the Distinguished Oregonian Medal; appropriating money; and declaring an emergency.

2 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

3 **SECTION 1. The Legislative Assembly finds that Oregonians consistently achieve the**
4 **highest levels of achievement in many human endeavors. The Legislative Assembly declares**
5 **the purpose of the Distinguished Oregonian Medal described in sections 2, 4 and 5 of this 2009**
6 **Act to be to recognize and celebrate this highest level of human achievement, in any human**
7 **endeavor, by an Oregonian.**

8
9 **SECTION 2. (1) The Distinguished Oregonian Commission is established, consisting of five**
10 **members, one member each being appointed by the following appointing authorities:**

11 (a) **The Governor;**

12 (b) **The President of the Senate;**

13 (c) **The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;**

14 (d) **The President of the League of Oregon Cities; and**

15 (e) **The President of the Association of Oregon Counties.**

16 (2) **The term of office of each member is four years, but a member serves at the pleasure**
17 **of the appointing authority for the member. Before the expiration of the term of a member,**
18 **the appointing authority shall appoint a successor to take office upon the date of that expi-**
19 **ration. A member is eligible for reappointment. If there is a vacancy for any cause, the ap-**
20 **pointing authority shall make an appointment to become immediately effective for the**
21 **unexpired term.**

22 (3) **A member of the commission is not entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed**
23 **from funds available to the commission for actual and necessary travel and other expenses**
24 **incurred by the member in the performance of the member's official duties in the manner**
25 **and amount provided in ORS 292.495.**

26 (4) **The commission shall select one of its members as chairperson and another as vice**
27 **chairperson, for such terms and with duties and powers necessary for the performance of**
28 **the functions of such offices as the commission determines.**

29 (5) **A majority of the members of the commission constitutes a quorum for the trans-**

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 action of business.

2 (6) The commission shall meet at least once annually and at such other times and places
3 as specified by the call of the chairperson or a majority of the members of the commission.

4 **SECTION 3.** (1) Notwithstanding the term of office specified in section 2 of this 2009 Act,
5 of the members first appointed to the Distinguished Oregonian Commission:

6 (a) One shall serve for a term ending December 31, 2010;

7 (b) One shall serve for a term ending December 31, 2011;

8 (c) One shall serve for a term ending December 31, 2012; and

9 (d) Two shall serve for terms ending December 31, 2013.

10 (2) At the first meeting of the commission, the commission shall by lot determine the
11 term of each member of the commission consistently with subsection (1) of this section.

12 **SECTION 4.** (1) The Distinguished Oregonian Commission shall at least annually review
13 submitted nominations for the Distinguished Oregonian Medal. In reviewing nominations, the
14 commission shall consider the contributions of the nominee to the well-being of Oregonians,
15 Oregon communities and the State of Oregon, from a broad-based societal perspective. In
16 making its decision, the commission may consider, but is not limited to considering, the
17 quality or quantity of the nominee's contributions to one or more human endeavors, the
18 duration of the contributions to those endeavors and magnitude of the contributions to those
19 endeavors.

20 (2) The commission shall award the Distinguished Oregonian Medal to the nominee that
21 the commission in its sole discretion has determined as exemplifying the highest levels of
22 contribution and achievement in areas of human endeavor by an Oregonian.

23 (3) The commission may solicit nominations for the Distinguished Oregonian Medal.

24 (4) The commission may not:

25 (a) Award the Distinguished Oregonian Medal to a person who is not a resident of the
26 State of Oregon.

27 (b) Consider nominations received on or after January 1 of the year in which a particular
28 medal is to be awarded.

29 (5) Meetings of the commission are confidential and the commission is not subject to ORS
30 192.610 to 192.690. Records of the commission are not subject to ORS 192.410 to 192.505 and
31 are exempt from disclosure.

32 **SECTION 5.** (1) The Distinguished Oregonian Medal shall consist of a gold-plated
33 medallion that is four inches in diameter, hung from a ribbon in the state colors of navy blue
34 and gold. The front of the medallion shall consist of the phrase "Distinguished Oregonian"
35 across the top arc, the seal of the State of Oregon in the center and the year of the award
36 across the bottom arc. The back of the medallion shall include details of the specific award,
37 as determined by the Distinguished Oregonian Commission.

38 (2) Subject to subsection (1) of this section, the commission shall approve the design of
39 a Distinguished Oregonian Medal and shall cause the medal to be produced.

40 (3) The Distinguished Oregonian Medal shall be awarded on February 14 of each year, in
41 recognition of the date of enactment of the Act of Congress admitting Oregon into the
42 United States. The presiding officers of the Legislative Assembly shall convene a joint ses-
43 sion of the Legislative Assembly in the chamber of the House of Representatives. The Gov-
44 ernor shall attend the joint session, and shall describe those contributions and achievements
45 of the medal recipient that merit the award and then shall bestow the Distinguished

1 **Oregonian Medal on the recipient. The recipient shall be given the opportunity to address the**
2 **assembly.**

3 **SECTION 6. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
4 **ated to the Distinguished Oregonian Commission, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009,**
5 **out of the General Fund, the amount of \$30,000, which may be expended for the purposes of**
6 **sections 2, 4 and 5 of this 2009 Act.**

7 **SECTION 7. This 2009 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
8 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2009 Act takes effect**
9 **on July 1, 2009.**

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