

Enrolled

House Concurrent Resolution 1

Sponsored by Representative GELSER; Senator MORSE

Whereas Jean Mater was born in 1916 in New York City; and

Whereas Jean Mater shattered gender barriers by graduating from Cornell University with a master's degree in chemistry in 1940, at a time when it was rare for women to work in the sciences; and

Whereas Jean Mater put her skill and determination to work as one of the first female chemists for Bell Labs, making a significant contribution to the war effort by devising strategies to combat German U-boats during World War II; and

Whereas Jean Mater and her husband Milt moved to Corvallis in 1946 to welcome their sons, James and Scott, and to start their business; and

Whereas Jean Mater earned a doctoral degree in forest products chemistry from Oregon State College in 1955, became an early champion of sustainable forest practices and was named as one of the few women fellows of the Society of American Foresters; and

Whereas Jean Mater, with her commitment to clean industry and her vision for economic vitality, was instrumental in bringing Hewlett-Packard to Corvallis in the 1970s; and

Whereas Hewlett-Packard went on to become the largest private employer and an essential source of charitable giving in the Corvallis area; and

Whereas Jean Mater became the first woman to lead a chamber of commerce in Oregon when she was named president of the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce in 1974; and

Whereas Jean Mater's other civic contributions included serving on the board of the Portland branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, the International Women's Forum, the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, the Reserve Officers Association, the Benton County Republican Party and Altrusa International in Corvallis; and

Whereas Jean Mater spent her 92 years serving her community and blazing new trails for women; and

Whereas Jean Mater was recognized as a Corvallis First Citizen and later as a Corvallis Senior First Citizen; and

Whereas Jean Mater's commitment to serving her community was matched by her dedication to her family, including her sons, her daughters-in-law, Sharon and Catherine, and her four grandchildren, Josh, Alexa, Jason and Elana; and

Whereas Jean Mater's indomitable spirit, courage and generosity left a mark on all who had the opportunity to meet her; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly, on behalf of all Oregonians, recognize, honor and express our gratitude for Jean Mater's life of service, innovation and advancing opportunities for women; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to her family as an expression of our esteem, appreciation and condolences.

Adopted by House March 26, 2009

Chief Clerk of House

Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate May 11, 2009

President of Senate