

**A-Engrossed**  
**Senate Joint Resolution 47**

Ordered by the Senate February 11  
Including Senate Amendments dated February 11

Sponsored by Senator FERRIOLI; Senators ATKINSON, BOQUIST, GIROD, KRUSE, MORSE, WHITSETT, WINTERS (Presession filed.)

**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.

Honors Raymond Moles by directing creation of [*wildlife safety corridor*] **Raymond Moles Memorial Wildlife Safety Corridor** along U.S. Highway 26.

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

1  
2       Whereas Raymond Moles was a Grant County resident who served as a founding member of the  
3 Grant County chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association; and

4       Whereas Raymond Moles was an avid outdoorsman and a vocal leader on wildlife issues within  
5 the Grant County area; and

6       Whereas Raymond Moles was committed to preventing wildlife losses along U.S. Highway 26  
7 between Picture Gorge and Prairie City, an area that bisects the summer and winter range for mi-  
8 gratory deer, elk and antelope; and

9       Whereas Raymond Moles, along with other members of the Grant County chapter of the Oregon  
10 Hunters Association, worked tirelessly to implement reduced speeds along portions of U.S. Highway  
11 26; and

12       Whereas because U.S. Highway 26 separates critical winter rangelands from irrigated farm fields  
13 and a stable water source, mule deer mortality due to collisions between mule deer and vehicles  
14 appears to be a significant contributor to a decline in mule deer numbers; and

15       Whereas mule deer mortality is also common along U.S. Highway 395, which runs south from  
16 John Day in the Murderers Creek Wildlife Management Unit; and

17       Whereas since October 2009, 41 mule deer and 2 Rocky Mountain elk have been killed in  
18 animal-vehicle collisions along U.S. Highway 26 between John Day and Dayville; and

19       Whereas since 2000, more than 600 animals, mostly mule deer, were killed on U.S. Highway 26  
20 and U.S. Highway 395 in the Murderers Creek and Northside Wildlife Management Units; and

21       Whereas the South Central Oregon Mule Deer Research Project showed that for every mule  
22 deer killed by collision and recovered within the highway right of way, an additional five were  
23 struck and died off the highway right of way and were not recovered, indicating that the total mule  
24 deer-vehicle collisions could be as high as 1,285 per year, or roughly 20 percent of the end-of-year  
25 population estimate for the Murderers Creek mule deer herd; and

26       Whereas Raymond Moles, along with other members of the Grant County chapter of the Oregon  
27 Hunters Association, worked with the Department of Transportation to place wildlife migration  
28 corridor signs near Mount Vernon and Picture Gorge; 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 the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, in collaboration with the Department of  
2       Transportation, has recently installed variable message boards in John Day and Dayville warning  
3       drivers of wildlife crossings throughout the John Day Valley; now, therefore,

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

5       That we, the members of the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly, in special legislative session  
6       assembled, direct the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Transportation  
7       to work with the Grant County chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association to establish a wildlife  
8       safety corridor along U.S. Highway 26 from Picture Gorge to Prairie City in memory of Raymond  
9       Moles and to locate and place two road signs designating the “Raymond Moles Memorial Wildlife  
10      Safety Corridor.”

11

---