

# House Concurrent Resolution 20

Sponsored by Representative BUCKLEY, Senator BATES

## 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: William Patton, 1927-2011.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas William Patton was born on September 22, 1927, in Medford and passed away at his  
3 home in Ashland on January 13, 2011; and

4       Whereas William Patton, after two years of service with the United States Army Air Forces,  
5 earned a degree in drama from Stanford University; and

6       Whereas William Patton, after meeting Oregon Shakespeare Festival founder Angus Bowmer at  
7 Stanford University, began volunteering at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland in 1948 as  
8 a technical assistant; and

9       Whereas William Patton, while simultaneously serving as the festival's lighting director, per-  
10 formed as Paris in *Romeo and Juliet* in 1949 and as Prince John in *Henry IV, Part One* in 1950; and

11       Whereas William Patton became the festival's first full-time employee, leading the festival from  
12 his appointment as general manager in 1953 until his retirement as executive director in 1995; and

13       Whereas William Patton oversaw the construction of three world-class theatres during his ten-  
14 ure, including the renowned Elizabethan Theatre; and

15       Whereas the Oregon Shakespeare Festival won the Tony Award for regional theatre in 1983  
16 under William Patton; and

17       Whereas William Patton received the Oregon Governor's Award for the Arts in 1993; and

18       Whereas William Patton led the Oregon Shakespeare Festival to become the largest regional  
19 theatre in the country, growing from 29 performances and an audience of 15,000 in his first year as  
20 general manager to 752 performances and 359,000 attendees in the year he retired; and

21       Whereas William Patton has been described as a visionary, an Oregon treasure and a gentleman  
22 in every way; and

23       Whereas the 2011 season of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival is dedicated to William Patton in  
24 honor of his lifetime of service; and

25       Whereas William Patton is survived by his wife, Shirley, whom he met when she joined the fes-  
26 tival as an actress in 1958, three children and seven grandchildren; now, therefore,

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

28       That we, the members of the Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, recog-  
29 nize, honor and celebrate the remarkable life and achievements of William Patton and his great  
30 contributions to our state; and be it further

31       Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the wife and family of William  
32 Patton as an expression of our condolences.

**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.

