

House Joint Memorial 22

Sponsored by Representatives KOTEK, BEYER, Senators BEYER, STARR; Representatives BENTZ, READ, Senator ATKINSON

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**.

Urges federal government to fund Columbia River Crossing Project.

JOINT MEMORIAL

1
2 To the President of the United States and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United
3 States of America, in Congress assembled:

4 We, your memorialists, the Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legis-
5 lative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

6 Whereas Interstate 5 is the only continuous north-south interstate highway on the west coast
7 and provides a vital commerce and travel corridor that links the United States, Canada and Mexico,
8 including the states of Oregon, Washington and California; and

9 Whereas the Columbia River Crossing Project is a long-term, comprehensive solution to address
10 major issues concerning public safety, quality of life and economic vitality along five miles of
11 Interstate 5 between Portland, Oregon, and Vancouver, Washington, issues that have significance for
12 the region and for the State of Oregon; and

13 Whereas a completed Columbia River Crossing Project will be built to withstand a major
14 earthquake, reduce the number of traffic accidents, reduce congestion, improve freight mobility and
15 enhance transit options; and

16 Whereas the Columbia River Crossing Project, a project of national significance that will expand
17 the capacity of the Interstate 5 bridges between Oregon and Washington, is a crucial transportation
18 project; and

19 Whereas the Columbia River Crossing Project would create 20,000 new and sustained jobs by
20 providing improved access to ports and highways; and

21 Whereas the annual flow of \$40 billion worth of interstate and international commerce across
22 the Interstate 5 bridges to nearby ports, businesses and distribution facilities must be improved; and

23 Whereas any Interstate 5 bridge must meet the needs of local residents and the business com-
24 munity, who rely on the transportation system to get people to places and products to markets safely
25 and effectively; and

26 Whereas the Project Sponsors Council in August 2010 unanimously recommended to the Gover-
27 nors of Oregon and Washington to move ahead with the development and construction of a new
28 10-lane multimodal Interstate 5 bridge that will include light rail, improved bicycle and pedestrian
29 facilities and improvements to seven interchanges in the five-mile impact area; and

30 Whereas the Oregon Legislative Assembly agrees that the project will be financed by a shared
31 commitment of federal, state and local funding; 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 Oregon and Washington transportation and planning agencies are working together
2 at the local, state and federal levels to finalize the design and maximize environmental, economic
3 and community benefits in the Columbia River Crossing Project area; and

4 Whereas the completion and future management of the Columbia River Crossing Project will
5 require the State of Oregon and the State of Washington to maintain a strong partnership; and

6 Whereas the State of Oregon and the State of Washington will do their parts to complete the
7 Columbia River Crossing Project on time and on budget; now, therefore,

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

9 (1) The Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly respectfully urges the federal government of the
10 United States of America to partner with the states of Oregon and Washington and invest federal
11 highway and transit funding in the Columbia River Crossing Project in recognition of the national
12 benefits of the project.

13 (2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to the Senate
14 Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to each member of the Oregon
15 Congressional Delegation and to the United States Secretary of Transportation.

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