

# House Concurrent Resolution 8

Sponsored by Representative FREDERICK; Representatives BAILEY, BOONE, DOHERTY, HOYLE, KENY-GUYER, WITT (Pre-session 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 **as introduced**.

Commends and honors Clara Peoples for her cultural and humanitarian contributions to her community and this state.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas Clara Peoples grew up in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and came to Oregon with her family  
3 to work in the Kaiser shipyard; and

4       Whereas while working in the Kaiser shipyard in 1945, Clara Peoples introduced the celebration  
5 of Juneteenth to Portland by making an announcement to her fellow workers on the public address  
6 system; and

7       Whereas Juneteenth marks the anniversary of the day on June 19, 1865, when Major General  
8 Gordon Granger read "General Order No. 3" in Galveston, Texas, declaring that all slaves were  
9 free; and

10       Whereas enforcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas, the last place where slavery was still  
11 being practiced in the United States, came more than two years after the Emancipation Proclama-  
12 tion took effect on January 1, 1863; and

13       Whereas Juneteenth is the oldest and most widely known celebration of African-American  
14 emancipation and a time for revival meetings, family reunions and celebrations of freedom; and

15       Whereas Clara Peoples joined with others in encouraging Senator Avel Gordly to sponsor Sen-  
16 ate Joint Resolution 31 (2001), declaring Juneteenth to be a day for celebration statewide of the  
17 dignity and freedom of all citizens; and

18       Whereas Clara Peoples and her husband, Haley, lived in Vanport and lost their home in 1948  
19 when a dike broke on the Columbia River and flooded the city; and

20       Whereas Clara Peoples and her family relocated to northeast Portland, where she quickly be-  
21 came aware that many residents of the neighborhood were going hungry; and

22       Whereas with the help of other volunteers, Clara Peoples began working to feed the hungry by  
23 organizing second harvests at local farms, finding and distributing surplus food from local farmers  
24 and other donors and even delivering food to individuals who were housebound or without trans-  
25 portation; and

26       Whereas Clara Peoples maintained that individuals and families should not have to sacrifice  
27 their dignity in order to receive assistance in times of need; and

28       Whereas in 1969 Clara Peoples organized her home-based food bank into the Community Care  
29 Association, a nonprofit that continues to provide food and clothing to low-income individuals today;  
30 and

31       Whereas the Community Care Association is considered to be one of the oldest and longest op-

**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 erating food banks in the United States; and

2       Whereas Clara Peoples is a beloved community elder whose generosity, compassion and dedi-  
3 cation throughout her life have enriched the lives of those around her; now, therefore,

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

5       That we, the members of the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly, commend and honor Clara  
6 Peoples for her cultural and humanitarian contributions to her community and this state.

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