

**Enrolled**  
**House Concurrent Resolution 23**

Sponsored by Representative SPRENGER; Representatives GELSER, REARDON, Senators BEYER, EDWARDS, GIROD, JOHNSON, KNOPP, MONROE, STARR

Whereas the United States government engaged in atmospheric and underwater nuclear weapons testing from July 16, 1945, to November 4, 1962, exposing nearly 200,000 United States military service members to unsafe levels of radiation; and

Whereas service members exposed to ionizing radiation due to participation in nuclear weapons testing became known as atomic veterans; and

Whereas atomic veterans were unable to discuss the nuclear weapons tests until the tests were declassified many years later; and

Whereas many atomic veterans died before they were able to seek veterans' benefits for their exposure to ionizing radiation; and

Whereas the United States Department of Veterans Affairs has identified more than 20 cancers and diseases associated with radiation exposure experienced by atomic veterans; and

Whereas many atomic veterans were exposed without their knowledge, their consent or any subsequent disclosure; and

Whereas atomic veterans served their country honorably and with distinction, dedication and self-sacrifice for the freedom of others; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly, honor and recognize the selfless service and dedication of atomic veterans for their country.

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Adopted by House April 4, 2013

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Ramona J. Line, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate May 16, 2013

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate