

Enrolled

Senate Concurrent Resolution 20

Sponsored by Senators COURTNEY, WINTERS

Whereas Dean Kent Brooks was born in Colony, Kansas, on July 22, 1916, attended the University of Kansas, Lawrence, earned an M.D. from the University of Kansas School of Medicine and served in the United States Navy as a medical officer in the Pacific Theater during World War II; and

Whereas Dr. Brooks was the superintendent of the Oregon State Hospital from 1955 to 1981; and

Whereas in 1974 Dr. Brooks made the decision to allow filming of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* at the Oregon State Hospital, a film that went on to win five Academy Awards in 1976, including Best Picture; and

Whereas Dr. Brooks played the role of Dr. Spivey, who performed the intake interview with Randle McMurphy, played by Jack Nicholson; and

Whereas though Dr. Brooks was criticized by some colleagues for his decision to allow filmmakers into the Oregon State Hospital, he felt that the experience would be therapeutic and financially advantageous for patients, who were able to work on the film as crew members and extras; and

Whereas Dr. Brooks hoped that the public would view the film as an allegory and took steps to ensure film audiences would understand that depictions of practices such as electroshock therapy and lobotomy did not reflect the practices of modern psychiatric hospitals; and

Whereas Dr. Brooks did much to improve patient care during his tenure and was known as an innovator in his field; and

Whereas Dr. Brooks never had a single complaint filed against him in his long and distinguished career as a psychiatrist; and

Whereas Dr. Brooks was an advocate against the dehumanization of patients, which he observed occurring often in mental institutions, nursing homes, correctional institutions, Indian reservations and the military; and

Whereas Dr. Brooks was behind the creation of a task force, composed of patients, staff and community members, that identified 25 realms of life at the Oregon State Hospital in which patients could have more input and personalization; and

Whereas in 1972 Dr. Brooks pioneered the "eco-therapy" program at the Oregon State Hospital in which 51 long-term patients at the hospital went on a 16-day wilderness trip, led by Lute Jerstad, one of the first Americans to climb Mt. Everest; and

Whereas the "eco-therapy" program experiment was chronicled by Life Magazine and spurred many patients on to recovery; and

Whereas for Dr. Brooks, the patient always came first; and

Whereas after a distinguished career, Dr. Brooks died at the age of 96 on May 30, 2013; 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 Dean Brooks for his pioneering and compassionate work in the field of psychiatry and express our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

Adopted by Senate June 24, 2013

Robert Taylor, Secretary of Senate

Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Adopted by House June 28, 2013

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House