

A-Engrossed
Senate Concurrent Resolution 7

Ordered by the Senate February 14
Including Senate Amendments dated February 14

Sponsored by Senator SHIELDS, Representatives FREDERICK, KOTEK

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.

Honors Charles Jordan for visionary leadership and contributions.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas Charles Jordan is a passionate, visionary leader who has inspired thousands of parks,
3 recreation and conservation professionals and touched the lives of even more Portland residents; and

4 Whereas Charles Jordan's passion for equality, fairness and positive change was fueled by his
5 childhood experiences of living in a segregated community in rural Texas; and

6 Whereas Charles Jordan served as an officer in the United States Army, then received his
7 bachelor's degree in education, sociology and philosophy from Gonzaga University and, in 2001, was
8 awarded an honorary Doctor of Law degree by the University of Vermont; and

9 Whereas Charles Jordan moved to Portland, Oregon, in 1970 to work for the federal Model
10 Cities Program; and

11 Whereas in 1974 Charles Jordan became the first African-American to serve as a city commis-
12 sioner when he was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the Portland City Council, and was sub-
13 sequently elected in 1976 and reelected in 1980 and 1984; and

14 Whereas during his service on the Portland City Council, Charles Jordan served two years as
15 Fire Commissioner, five years as Police Commissioner and three years as Parks Commissioner; and

16 Whereas Charles Jordan served as director of Portland Parks and Recreation from 1989 until
17 his retirement in 2003, during which time he championed the necessities of open space, clean air and
18 clean water, expanded the number of parks and natural areas in Portland and set groundwork that
19 has helped parks in Portland earn national awards and recognition; and

20 Whereas Charles Jordan is known for his innovative problem-solving strategies and outreach
21 programs such as the Community Juvenile Officer Program, which put Portland police officers in
22 local schools to engage youth through positive interaction and activities, and training programs
23 designed to recruit people of color to the Portland Fire Bureau; and

24 Whereas Charles Jordan built a national reputation for supporting affirmative action, becoming
25 a prominent voice in the national environmental movement for broadening its constituency to in-
26 clude new leaders and greater involvement from minority and low-income communities; and

27 Whereas among many other honors and leadership appointments, Charles Jordan served as
28 chairman of the Conservation Fund, as a commissioner on the President's Commission on Americans
29 Outdoors from 1985 to 1987 and as a committee member of the American Heritage Rivers Initiative

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 Advisory Committee by presidential appointment; and

2 Whereas in 2012 the City of Portland renamed the University Park Community Center as the
3 Charles Jordan Community Center in honor of his lifetime of service; and

4 Whereas Charles Jordan is an innovator, conservationist and charismatic leader who has dedi-
5 cated his life to service and community building; now, therefore,

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

7 That we, the members of the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly, honor Charles Jordan for
8 his visionary leadership, his invaluable contributions to Portland's parks and natural areas and his
9 service to the people of this state.

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