

**Enrolled**  
**House Concurrent Resolution 8**

Sponsored by Representative GOMBERG, Senator ROBLAN, Representative SMITH DB; Representatives BOONE, MCKEOWN, SOLLMAN (at the request of former Representative Wayne Krieger) (Pre-session filed.)

Whereas Governor Oswald West declared Oregon's ocean beaches this state's "great birthright"; and

Whereas Oregon enjoys a unique legacy of publicly owned beaches, first established in 1913 when the Legislative Assembly declared the wet sand areas of the ocean beaches a public highway; and

Whereas there was a great public outcry in 1966 when it was learned that public access to the dry sand areas of the ocean beaches was imperiled by private enclosure; and

Whereas the next year the Legislative Assembly passed, and Governor Tom McCall signed into law, House Bill 1601 (1967), the Beach Bill; and

Whereas the Beach Bill reads, in part, that it is the "policy of the State of Oregon to forever preserve and maintain the sovereignty . . . over the seashore and ocean beaches . . . so that the public may have the free and uninterrupted use thereof"; and

Whereas the bipartisan Beach Bill was passed by a Republican House and Democratic Senate and approved by a Republican Governor; and

Whereas for generations, Oregonians and visitors have enjoyed the free and uninterrupted use of this state's ocean beaches to, among many other activities, build driftwood forts and sandcastles, to walk dogs and fly kites and to run, walk, swim, fish and surf; and

Whereas the State Parks and Recreation Department reported over 23.9 million visitors at Oregon beaches from January to September in 2016; and

Whereas July 6, 2017, marks the 50th anniversary of the Beach Bill's passage; and

Whereas the Beach Bill's 50th anniversary summer will coincide with a total solar eclipse on August 21, 2017, that will be first seen in North America from Oregon's beaches; and

Whereas Oregonians remain committed to protecting their great birthright, now and for future generations; now, therefore,

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

That Oregon celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Beach Bill; and be it further

Resolved, That we, the members of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly, encourage every Oregonian to visit and enjoy our magnificent ocean beaches in the summer of 2017.

Adopted by House April 10, 2017

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate May 11, 2017

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate