

# House Joint Memorial 8

Sponsored by Representative EVANS

## 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**.

Requests federal government to appoint special master to ensure that any restructuring of federal environmental and natural resource laws and policies be undertaken in cooperation and collaboration with states.

## JOINT MEMORIAL

1  
2 To the President of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States and the Senate  
3 and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

4 We, your memorialists, the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legis-  
5 lative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

6 Whereas the United States Constitution establishes a federal system of government under which  
7 a national government has some powers and responsibilities, some powers and responsibilities are  
8 shared between the national government and state governments and some powers and responsibil-  
9 ities are solely the province of state governments; and

10 Whereas the environmental stewardship of this nation's natural resources is a critical respon-  
11 sibility of the national government of the United States that is also a shared responsibility of the  
12 states; and

13 Whereas the President of the United States and certain Congressional leaders have expressed  
14 an interest in rolling back federal environmental protections and environmental laws and regu-  
15 lations; and

16 Whereas the repeal of federal environmental standards will have a significant impact on federal  
17 and state lands in Oregon, on Oregon's economy and on cultural and historic values shared by all  
18 Oregonians; and

19 Whereas any major restructuring of federal environmental standards must be done thoughtfully  
20 and with cooperation and collaboration with those states that are impacted by federal actions; and

21 Whereas Oregon has decades of successful experience promoting a model of environmental and  
22 natural resource stewardship that results in high standards of livability and sustainability while also  
23 having long-term economic growth; and

24 Whereas the appointment of a special master would facilitate communication and collaboration  
25 between the states and the federal government in any significant restructuring of federal environ-  
26 mental and natural resource protection laws; and

27 Whereas there is precedent for the executive branch appointing a special master, as for example  
28 when then-Attorney General of the United States John Ashcroft appointed Kenneth Feinberg as  
29 special master to oversee compensation for victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks; now,  
30 therefore,

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

**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       That we, the members of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly respectfully request the ap-  
2       pointment of a special master to ensure that any restructuring of federal environmental and natural  
3       resource laws and policies be undertaken in cooperation and collaboration with the states and to  
4       ensure that Oregon's model of natural resource stewardship be considered by federal authorities;  
5       and be it further

6       Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, to the  
7       Attorney General of the United States, to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House  
8       of Representatives and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

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