

House Concurrent Resolution 8

Sponsored by Representative NATHANSON, Senators BEYER, PROZANSKI, Representative HOLVEY; Representatives EVANS, FAHEY, LIVELY, MARSH, NOSSE, SCHOUTEN, SMITH WARNER, WILDE, Senators BOQUIST, GELSER, MANNING JR (Presession filed.)

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**.

In memoriam: Mary Katherine "Kappy" Eaton, 1924-2018.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas Mary Katherine "Kappy" Eaton was born on March 9, 1924, in Saint Paul, Minnesota,
3 to John and Mary Girton; and

4 Whereas Kappy Eaton first became involved in politics at the age of 12, when she handed out
5 posters and buttons for Harold Stassen's Minnesota gubernatorial campaign; and

6 Whereas Kappy Eaton attended the University of Minnesota, serving as city editor for the
7 *Minnesota Daily* and graduating with a degree in journalism and political science; and

8 Whereas Kappy Eaton married Burt Eaton on October 18, 1947, and they were married for 64
9 years until Burt's death in 2011; and

10 Whereas Kappy Eaton worked as a newspaper reporter in California and Minnesota, and she
11 attended the William Mitchell College of Law before she and Burt moved to Eugene, Oregon, in
12 1951; and

13 Whereas Kappy Eaton earned master's degrees in journalism and library science from the Uni-
14 versity of Oregon (UO), where she became a professor and research librarian; and

15 Whereas Kappy Eaton's lifelong passion was serving as a citizen advocate for her community,
16 state and nation; and

17 Whereas Kappy Eaton served as local and state president of both the League of Women Voters
18 (LWV) and the American Association of University Women (AAUW); and

19 Whereas Kappy Eaton was a committed voice for democracy, voting rights and campaign finance
20 reform, and she served for many years as board chair of Common Cause Oregon; and

21 Whereas Kappy Eaton went to Eastern Europe three times on behalf of the United States De-
22 partment of State, serving as an elections observer and working to educate voters in the region's
23 emerging democracies; and

24 Whereas Kappy Eaton was dedicated to improving the lives of women locally and throughout
25 the world, serving as president of the Oregon Women's Rights Coalition and leading workshops at
26 the United Nations World Conferences on Women in Kenya and China; and

27 Whereas Kappy Eaton coordinated the AAUW's national campaign for the Equal Rights
28 Amendment, leading workshops and lobbying efforts in more than 30 states; and

29 Whereas Kappy Eaton was a fierce advocate for libraries of all types and sizes, from volun-
30 teering at Edison Elementary School in Eugene to serving as president of the Oregon Library As-
31 sociation; and

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 Whereas Kappy Eaton was a legendary presence at the State Capitol, where she was a fixture
2 at every session of the Legislative Assembly for the past half century; and

3 Whereas Kappy Eaton was widely respected for her legislative experience and knowledge, and
4 rare was the day during a legislative session when she didn't make the drive from Eugene to Salem
5 to testify, attend work sessions and meet with legislators on behalf of the many causes and organ-
6 izations she believed in; and

7 Whereas Kappy Eaton served with distinction on many governmental bodies, including the UO
8 Faculty Senate, the City of Eugene Budget Committee and mental health advisory boards for both
9 Lane County and the State of Oregon; and

10 Whereas Kappy Eaton loved her Ducks, and she and Burt were passionate fans of UO athletics
11 who attended nearly every home football game and men's and women's basketball game, as well as
12 traveling to many football bowl games over the years; and

13 Whereas Kappy Eaton was voted both the Eugene Young Woman of the Year and the Eugene
14 Woman of the Year, selected as the Lane County Volunteer of the Year and honored with the UO
15 Distinguished Service Award, the Lane County LWV's Annabel Kitzhaber Education and Advocacy
16 Award and the Governor's Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award; and

17 Whereas Kappy Eaton was the first Oregonian to receive the Medallion Award from the Na-
18 tional Association of Secretaries of State; and

19 Whereas despite her many awards and honors, Kappy Eaton approached her life's work with
20 humility and grace, and she cared deeply about finding ways to improve the lives of individual
21 people; and

22 Whereas Kappy Eaton spent tens of thousands of hours over the course of her remarkable life
23 volunteering for the causes dear to her heart; and

24 Whereas Kappy Eaton made a difference, and in the words of the *Register-Guard*: "Current and
25 future generations have benefited from her work, and would profit from her example"; and

26 Whereas Kappy Eaton died at home on August 7, 2018; and

27 Whereas Kappy Eaton is survived by her daughter Marilee, sons John and David, seven grand-
28 children and one great-grandchild; and

29 Whereas Kappy Eaton will be forever remembered as a dedicated and tireless volunteer and
30 citizen advocate whose career of public service touched countless lives and left an indelible imprint
31 on the University of Oregon, the City of Eugene, Lane County and the State of Oregon; now,
32 therefore,

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

34 That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, honor and celebrate the life of
35 Mary Katherine "Kappy" Eaton, a true champion of democracy, and we express our gratitude for
36 her contributions to the people of this state; and be it further

37 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Kappy Eaton as an
38 expression of our sympathy and condolences.

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