

House Joint Memorial 6

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**.

Urges Congress to pass legislation to streamline presidential appointment process. Urges Congress to adopt rules of proceeding to require formal disposition of nomination within 200 days of date Senate receives nomination.

JOINT MEMORIAL

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

4 We, your memorialists, the Eightieth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative
5 session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

6 Whereas when a president-elect is newly voted into office, the president-elect and transition
7 team face the daunting task of locating, screening, nominating and obtaining Senate approval for
8 thousands of positions; and

9 Whereas the presidential appointment process has consistently grown more unwieldy and cum-
10 bersome with each passing decade; and

11 Whereas it is often more than a year into a new administration before a majority of presidential
12 appointments are nominated and some positions remain vacant for multiple years; and

13 Whereas Senate approval of presidential appointees delays the process even further; and

14 Whereas influential Senators exercise the practice of placing a hold on a nominee to delay or
15 stop an appointment; and

16 Whereas individual Senators use holds to extract concessions from an administration or influ-
17 ence the direction an agency is to take, further slowing down the appointment process; and

18 Whereas key government positions are retained by holdover officials from a prior administration
19 who may be unsympathetic to the current administration's goals and objectives; and

20 Whereas vacant positions or holdover officials impede the speed with which a new adminis-
21 tration can fully discharge its obligations to the American people; and

22 Whereas an excessively slow appointment process also prevents the public from holding public
23 officials to account; now, therefore,

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

25 That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, urge the Congress of the United
26 States to pass legislation that streamlines the presidential appointment process; and be it further

27 Resolved, That we also urge Congress to adopt rules of proceeding to ensure that each presi-
28 dential appointment is disposed of through confirmation, rejection or withdrawal within 200 days of
29 the date the President's written nomination is received by the Senate; and be it further

30 Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to
31 the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to each member

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 of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

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