

## Enrolled

# Senate Concurrent Resolution 26

Sponsored by Senator BEYER, Representative WILDE

Whereas Evangeline Mary Kelsch “Vange” Bigham was born on June 6, 1945, in Springfield, Oregon, to Joseph and Ella Kelsch; and

Whereas Vange Bigham grew up in Creswell, Oregon, where she picked beans in the summer and enjoyed riding her bicycle down the road that eventually became Interstate 5; and

Whereas Vange Bigham was a cheerleader at Creswell High School and graduated in 1963 as the salutatorian for her class; and

Whereas Vange Bigham attended Southern Oregon College (now Southern Oregon University) for a year before returning to Creswell, where she worked in the post office and met Richard Bigham; and

Whereas Vange and Richard Bigham were married in 1964, and together they had two children, Chrissy and Rick; and

Whereas while raising her children, Vange Bigham returned to higher education, earning academic honors and graduating from the University of Oregon in 1992; and

Whereas Vange Bigham was hired as a teacher at Springfield High School, where she enjoyed teaching honors English and journalism and took great pride in working with her students to publish the school’s weekly newspaper; and

Whereas Vange Bigham retired from teaching in 2003, but she did not slow down her active and committed volunteer work, devoting countless hours to the causes dear to her; and

Whereas Vange Bigham was a tireless advocate for libraries and schools, and she offered her skills and leadership in many ways, from volunteering in the ASPIRE program at Creswell High School to playing a huge role in ensuring that the new Creswell Library became a reality; and

Whereas Vange Bigham served on the Creswell School Board and the Creswell Education Foundation, and she was one of the Lane Library District’s original board members; and

Whereas Vange Bigham loved camping and fishing and she hiked many miles with a group of dear friends, sharing countless laughs and adventures along the way; and

Whereas Vange Bigham loved to read and write poetry; and

Whereas Vange Bigham’s biggest joy was spending time with her family, and she had a special knack for making each of her grandchildren feel that they were her favorite; and

Whereas Vange Bigham had a huge zest for life and a rare gift for making any event feel like a party; and

Whereas Vange Bigham died on December 31, 2018; and

Whereas Vange Bigham is survived by her husband, two children and nine grandchildren; and

Whereas Vange Bigham will be forever remembered as a dedicated teacher and a tireless volunteer who touched many lives and made her community a better place; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, celebrate the life and accomplishments of Evangeline Mary Kelsch “Vange” Bigham, and we recognize and honor her contributions to the people of this state; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Vange Bigham as an expression of our sympathy and condolences.

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Adopted by Senate May 6, 2019

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Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Adopted by House June 4, 2019

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House