

# Senate Concurrent Resolution 32

Sponsored by Senator STEINER HAYWARD, Representative GOMBERG

## 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**.

Congratulates Congregation Neveh Shalom on its 150th anniversary.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom has served Portland, Oregon, as an anchoring religious,  
3 social and educational institution for 150 years; and

4       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom houses the largest Jewish library in the Pacific North-  
5 west, with more than 10,000 volumes available on loan to the community; and

6       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom possesses the world's largest set of the Ten  
7 Commandments on its exterior, which airline pilots have been known to use as a navigation tool;  
8 and

9       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom maintains two sacred cemeteries where the Jewish rites  
10 of mourning can be faithfully observed, providing solace to families during vulnerable moments of  
11 loss; and

12       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom has supported Neighborhood House for a generation; and

13       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom feeds several thousand members of the houseless commu-  
14 nity every year, including through its Soup to the Streets program, which delivers food directly to  
15 people living in tents and sleeping bags; and

16       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom is working to address the housing crisis by partnering  
17 with Habitat for Humanity and by building a tiny home for the houseless community as a collective  
18 thank you for being blessed with a home of its own for 150 years; and

19       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom has maintained religious education schools for gener-  
20 ations, educating 400 students a year; and

21       Whereas for more than 60 years, Congregation Neveh Shalom's Foundation School has embraced  
22 the youngest learners and provided them with the building blocks to become able citizens and cre-  
23 ative, confident problem solvers; and

24       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom educates Christian students from middle school through  
25 college who wish to learn about Judaism and to experience a traditional Jewish prayer service; and

26       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom has been a leader in the field of interfaith work, partner-  
27 ing with Christians, Muslims and persons and institutions of many other faiths to build bridges of  
28 tolerance and mutual understanding; and

29       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom, spearheaded by Cantor Linda Shivers, was one of the six  
30 founding houses of worship for the Community of Welcoming Congregations, which now represents  
31 dozens of congregations that welcome and support GLBTQ+ individuals, their families and allies;  
32 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 Congregation Neveh Shalom was one of the earliest Conservative Jewish congregations  
2 to extend bat mitzvah, the Jewish coming of age rite of passage, to girls; and

3       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom congregants serve the larger community as doctors, law-  
4 yers, judges, teachers and elected officials and through countless other forms of commitment; and

5       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom provides a safe and supportive space to various groups in  
6 recovery so that they may work to better their own lives and improve their role as citizens; and

7       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom is blessed to have two remarkable rabbis emeritus, Rabbi  
8 Joshua Stampfer and Rabbi Daniel Isaak, who have served the congregation for more than 100 col-  
9 lective years; and

10       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom, with the help of Rabbis Stampfer and Isaak, launched  
11 Camp Solomon Schechter, a summer camp to promote and disseminate the values and ethics of  
12 Judaism; and

13       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom housed a small Orthodox day school until it grew suffi-  
14 ciently to acquire its own location, further demonstrating the congregation's support of a pluralistic  
15 vision of society; and

16       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom supports groups that engage in environmental advocacy,  
17 work to end genocide, support people in times of need and other activities that serve the Jewish  
18 precept of "tikkun olam," serving as God's partners in perfecting the world; and

19       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom has won numerous awards for its outstanding program-  
20 ming and is recognized throughout the country for its many contributions; and

21       Whereas Congregation Neveh Shalom is the largest Conservative Jewish congregation west of  
22 Minneapolis and north of Los Angeles; now, therefore,

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

24       That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, congratulate Congregation Neveh  
25 Shalom on its 150th anniversary, and we express our gratitude to the congregation and its clergy,  
26 staff and members for their ongoing service to the State of Oregon.

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