

Enrolled

House Concurrent Resolution 2

Sponsored by Representatives SMITH DB, WRIGHT (Pre-session filed.)

Whereas Kendra “Kennie” Parry was born in Sacramento, California, on November 17, 1947; and
Whereas Kennie Parry was raised in Gustine and Sebastopol, California; and
Whereas as a young girl, Kennie Parry took care of her four siblings while their single mother worked to support the family; and

Whereas Kennie Parry became a proud farm girl after her family moved to her new stepfather’s farm, and she bred pigs for her 4-H project and loved sitting in her “enchanted” tree; and

Whereas Kennie Parry attended San Francisco State University and New York University; and

Whereas Kennie Parry’s lifelong dream was to work in the theatre, and in 1968 she moved to Ashland, Oregon, to become the assistant to the head costume designer at the world-renowned Oregon Shakespeare Festival; and

Whereas Kennie Parry learned her craft well, and she went on to design costumes in New York City and the San Francisco Bay Area; and

Whereas Kennie Parry had a long and successful career in health care as a nurse and hospital administrator before becoming one of the top rural health care consultants in the nation; and

Whereas Kennie Parry was a respected board member and spokeswoman for the National Rural Health Association, where she worked directly with Congressional leaders to ensure that under-served rural populations had access to health care; and

Whereas Kennie Parry could move mountains (and Congress) with her faith in what was right, her inimitable sense of humor, her charm and her eloquence; and

Whereas Kennie Parry was an accomplished angler who taught fly fishing across the western United States, and she started the company Lady Angler to create fly vests designed specifically for women because, as she said with a smile, “women need to look good in the outdoors too”; and

Whereas Kennie Parry was a devout salmon conservationist, and she worked alongside her husband, Cam, to create new salmon habitat and save functionally extinct runs of fish with their bioengineering partnership River Docs; and

Whereas Kennie Parry was the proud mother of an officer in the United States Marine Corps, and she was instrumental in the creation of Operation Santa, which organized women across Oregon to sew Christmas stockings, bake cookies and provide gifts and holiday cheer to U.S. military personnel in the Middle East; and

Whereas Kennie Parry’s heart was filled with love, and she was always at the center of a large circle of family, friends, colleagues and others she welcomed from all walks of life; and

Whereas Kennie Parry helped everyone she loved be more than they ever thought they could be; and

Whereas Kennie Parry’s remarkable life took her from a girl with big dreams in a tiny town in California’s Central Valley to designing costumes in New York City to lobbying Congress, and she showed that nothing is out of reach for anyone in their life; and

Whereas Kennie Parry passed away on May 10, 2021; and

Whereas Kennie Parry loved her family above all, and she was survived by her husband, Cam, two sons, Corey and Tyler, four grandchildren and many other beloved family members; and

Whereas Kennie Parry touched countless 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 Eighty-second Legislative Assembly, honor and celebrate the life and accomplishments of Kendra “Kennie” Parry, and we express our gratitude for her service to the people of the State of Oregon; and be it further

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

Adopted by House January 26, 2023

Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

Dan Rayfield, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate March 21, 2023

Rob Wagner, President of Senate