Whereas John Michael “Mike” Garvey was born in Portland, Oregon, on November 9, 1953; and
Whereas Mike Garvey grew up in Portland and graduated from Wilson High School; and
Whereas Mike Garvey knew at an early age that law enforcement was his calling, and he especially wanted to serve the people of Portland and make his community a better place; and
Whereas Mike Garvey was an Oregon State Police cadet as a teenager; and
Whereas Mike Garvey's career with the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) began in 1977, when he started work as a radio dispatcher; and
Whereas Mike Garvey fulfilled his childhood dream when he began working as a police officer on the streets of Portland in 1978; and
Whereas Mike Garvey steadily rose through the ranks of the PPB, and he served in various leadership positions with increasing responsibility, ultimately attaining the rank of commander; and
Whereas as a commander, Mike Garvey led the PPB's Central Precinct, supervising all uniformed officers on the west side of the Willamette River in Portland; and
Whereas Mike Garvey served as Portland Mayor Frank Ivancie's personal bodyguard; and
Whereas Mike Garvey was renowned within the PPB for his personal bravery and toughness, and as a young officer he was shot and severely wounded in the line of duty, earning the Police Star for his conduct; and
Whereas Mike Garvey was a warrior who inspired his fellow officers in dangerous situations, but he was also an officer who cared deeply about his community and had a rare ability to bring calm to people in moments of crisis; and
Whereas Mike Garvey became a living legend in the PPB for his heroism and accomplishments, but also for his compassion and willingness to help the officers he served with and supervised; and
Whereas the officers of the PPB knew that Mike Garvey always had their backs; and
Whereas Mike Garvey was the PPB's first openly gay male officer, and he faced that challenge by striving to be the best police officer and leader he could be; and
Whereas Mike Garvey retired from the PPB in 2005, and he had a successful second career as a real estate broker, living in Washington, D.C., and Redwood City, California; and
Whereas Mike Garvey loved to play golf, travel, run half-marathons and spend time with his life partner, Randy Gale; and
Whereas at the time of his death, Mike Garvey was president of the board of Japan and United States Investing for Survivors (JUSTIS), an organization that provides help and comfort to the families of law enforcement officers killed or injured in the line of duty; and
Whereas Mike Garvey lost his battle with cancer and passed away at home on August 8, 2022, surrounded by his loved ones; and
Whereas Mike Garvey was a civil rights pioneer who helped to create a culture of diversity and tolerance at the Portland Police Bureau and in the City of Portland; and
Whereas Mike Garvey was a dedicated police officer who served the people of the State of Oregon with honor and distinction during his trailblazing career; now, therefore,
That we, the members of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly, honor and celebrate the remarkable life and career of Commander John Michael “Mike” Garvey of the Portland Police Bureau, and we express our gratitude for his service to the people of the City of Portland and to all Oregonians; and be it further

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

Adopted by Senate April 6, 2023

Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

Rob Wagner, President of Senate

Adopted by House April 24, 2023

Dan Rayfield, Speaker of House