

Senate Concurrent Resolution 6

Sponsored by Senator SOLLMAN, Representative MCLAIN (Pre-session filed.)

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**.

In memoriam: Former state Representative Ralph Davis Brown, 1944-2022.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown was born in Spokane, Washington, on July 3, 1944, during World
3 War II; and

4 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown's mother, Lillian "Tinka" Weivoda Barber worked in the war in-
5 dustry, and his father, Leonard Davis, served in the United States Army; and

6 Whereas when he was six months old, Ralph Davis Brown was adopted by his babysitter, Violet
7 Newman Brown, and her husband, Harold "Brownie" Brown; and

8 Whereas when Ralph Davis Brown was seven years old, Harold Brown died on the job in a train
9 accident near Lewiston, Idaho, and subsequently Ralph Davis Brown and Violet Brown moved to
10 her hometown of Astoria, Oregon; and

11 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown had a happy childhood spent with his many friends, and he par-
12 ticipated in the Boy Scouts of America, the YMCA, swimming, sports, clam digging, camping and
13 many other activities; and

14 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown attended Captain Robert Gray Elementary School in Astoria,
15 where he met his future wife, Carol Osterlund, and they remained close to many of their friends from
16 those years, including the Fellas Club; and

17 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown attended Astoria High School, where he participated on the foot-
18 ball, baseball and wrestling teams; and

19 Whereas after graduating from high school in 1962, Ralph Davis Brown joined the United States
20 Army National Guard and spent a year in training, followed by a four-year part-time stint; and

21 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown was on National Guard duty during riots in Seaside, Oregon, and
22 he also helped to evacuate a nursing home during a flood alert; and

23 Whereas during his high school and college years, Ralph Davis Brown worked for the Columbia
24 River Packers Association (which later became Bumble Bee Seafoods); and

25 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown married Carol Osterlund, his longtime girlfriend, in September 1963
26 and their daughter, Laurie, was born in 1964; and

27 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown received his associate degree from Clatsop Community College in
28 1965 and his bachelor's degree from Oregon College of Education in 1967; and

29 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown began his teaching career at Fort Stevens Junior High School in
30 the Warrenton-Hammond School District, where he also coached football and basketball; and

31 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown's first students were very special to him, and he remained in con-
32 tact with some of them for the rest of his life; 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.

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1 Whereas after his son, Daryle, was born in 1970, Ralph Davis Brown began teaching in the
2 Hillsboro School District, where he would spend the rest of his career at the middle school level
3 as a teacher, guidance counselor and administrator; and

4 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown continued his education at Portland State University and Oregon
5 State University, earning his counseling and administrative degrees; and

6 Whereas in addition to teaching, Ralph Davis Brown coached various sports teams and assisted
7 with track meets and other extracurricular activities; and

8 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown served as a mayor and city council member for the City of
9 Cornelius, Oregon, and he was a parks and recreation commissioner for the City of Forest Grove,
10 Oregon; and

11 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown was an active member of the Forest Grove United Church of
12 Christ, where he served in various leadership positions and helped start their homelessness assist-
13 ance program; and

14 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown served on the boards of the Cornelius Booster Club, Cornelius
15 Kids, Inc., Tuality Community Hospital, Washington County Community Action, Forest Grove High
16 School Hall of Fame and Forest Grove Senior and Community Center; and

17 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown was a longtime member and president of the Oregon Road Runners
18 Club (ORRC), and he was director of hundreds of runs for ORRC and other local organizations in
19 Washington County and northwest Oregon; and

20 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown was appointed as a state Representative for Oregon House District
21 29 in 2002, serving the remainder of a term until the next election; and

22 Whereas in 2007, Ralph Davis Brown won election to the school board of the Forest Grove
23 School District; and

24 Whereas in retirement, Carol and Ralph Davis Brown were able to travel and spend time with
25 their beloved children and grandchildren; and

26 Whereas aided by his daughter, Laurie, Ralph Davis Brown was fortunate to reconnect with his
27 birth family in Montana, California and Arizona, including his mother, Lillian, his brothers, Art and
28 Dale, and his sisters, Jacquie, Revan, Judie, Geri and Teri; and

29 Whereas as a result of finding his birth family, Ralph Davis Brown became an enrolled member
30 of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation in Montana; and

31 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown was found deceased on May 13, 2022, nearly a year after he went
32 missing from his home in Cornelius; and

33 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown is survived by his wife of 58 years, Carol, his children, Laurie and
34 Daryle, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, siblings, nieces, nephews and countless friends,
35 coworkers and fellow runners and walkers who were a large part of his life; and

36 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown's family is grateful to the volunteer divers of Adventures With
37 Purpose who found Ralph and brought closure to the family, as well as public safety personnel from
38 Washington County, Yamhill County, the City of Cornelius and many other cities and the hundreds
39 of volunteers who helped search for Ralph; and

40 Whereas due to the circumstances surrounding Ralph Davis Brown's tragic disappearance and
41 death, Oregon's Missing and Endangered Person Alert system has now been updated to include a
42 process for coordinated agency response when an endangered person goes missing; and

43 Whereas Ralph Davis Brown was a teacher and community leader of great distinction, and he
44 was renowned for his love of family and friends, his lifelong passion for his students and his decades
45 of dedicated public service; now, therefore,

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

2 That we, the members of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly, celebrate the life and accom-
3 plements of Ralph Davis Brown, and we recognize and honor his contributions to the people of this
4 state; and be it further

5 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Ralph Davis Brown
6 as an expression of our sympathy and condolences.

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