Senate Resolution 2

Sponsored by Senator GIROD

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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.

Commends first responders for their heroic actions in fighting Santiam Fire.

SENATE RESOLUTION 1

Whereas on August 16, 2020, thunderstorms moved across the State of Oregon and lightning ignited multiple wildfires, including the Beachie Creek Fire, the Lionshead Fire and the P-515 Fire;

Whereas on September 7, powerful winds caused these wildfires to explode in size and merge into the Santiam Fire, a situation exacerbated by multiple spot fires caused by downed power lines; and

Whereas in the early morning hours of September 8, the Santiam Fire raced westward down the Santiam Canyon, quickly endangering many communities; and

Whereas residents of the Santiam Canyon were urgently evacuated in the face of the catastrophic and unpredictable wind-whipped wildfire; and

Whereas confronting the possibility of massive property destruction and loss of lives, firefighters and other first responders desperately fought to save the communities of the Santiam Canyon; and

Whereas the Santiam Fire was ultimately one of the most destructive wildfires in the history of the State of Oregon, but countless lives, structures and jobs were saved by the courage and resourcefulness of first responders in the face of unimaginable adversity; and

Whereas many of the first responders who battled the Santiam Fire were volunteers who signed on for this work to help the people they care about while giving back to the places they call home;

Whereas when their communities needed them most, these first responders stood strong; and

Whereas the public and private entities that responded to the Santiam Fire include the State Forestry Department, the State Fire Marshal, Marion County, Linn County, Santiam Hospital's ambulance service, the American Red Cross and fire departments and first responders from Idanha, Detroit, Lyons, Mill City, Gates, Stayton, Sweet Home, Aumsville, Scio, Drakes Crossing, Silverton, Mt. Angel, Sublimity, Albany, Salem, Turner, Keizer, Jefferson, Woodburn, Hubbard and Lebanon;

25 26 and

Whereas in the aftermath of the wildfire, Santiam Canyon residents have made great progress with rebuilding efforts in their communities, many of which suffered horrific destruction; now, therefore,

30 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Senate of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor the actions of the first responders who battled the Santiam Fire and saved many lives; 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 be it further

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Resolved, That we express our gratitude to all the public and private entities and first responders who fought the Santiam Fire with heroism and great determination.
