

House Bill 3768

Sponsored by Representatives CHAICHI, JAVADI, TRAN; Representative HARTMAN, Senator JAMA

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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act makes March 21 of each year Nowruz Day in Oregon. (Flesch Readability Score: 81.8).

Designates March 21 of each year as Nowruz Day.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to Nowruz Day; and declaring an emergency.

2 Whereas Nowruz, the Persian New Year, originated over 3,000 years ago in the Iranian religion
3 of Zoroastrianism; and
4

5 Whereas Nowruz, meaning "new day," marks the first day of spring, symbolizing renewal
6 through the rebirth of nature, promoting peace and solidarity across communities and celebrating
7 all that has come before through rituals and shared meals; and

8 Whereas Nowruz is marked by the presentation of the Haft-seen table, a traditional arrangement
9 of seven symbolic items with names starting with the letter "s," including seer (garlic, symbolizing
10 health), sabzeh (sprouts, symbolizing rebirth), seeb (apple, symbolizing beauty), serkeh (vinegar,
11 symbolizing age), senjed (dried oleaster fruit, symbolizing love), samanu (wheat paste, symbolizing
12 sweetness of life) and somagh (sumac, symbolizing patience); and

13 Whereas Nowruz is rooted in the traditions of the Iranian peoples, but it has spread to countries
14 in the Caucasus, the Black Sea Basin, the Balkans, throughout Asia and all across the world; and

15 Whereas Nowruz transcends borders and unifies peoples of diverse ethnicities, cultures, lan-
16 guages and religions and it is celebrated by countless immigrants living in Oregon; and

17 Whereas in a time of continuing strife in Iran and throughout the world, Nowruz continues to
18 spread its hallmark message of eternal optimism, rejuvenation and new beginnings; and

19 Whereas March 21 has been officially designated as International Nowruz Day by the United
20 Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); now, therefore,

21 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

22 **SECTION 1. March 21 of each year is designated as Nowruz Day.**

23 **SECTION 2. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
24 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect
25 on its passage.**

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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.