

# Senate Concurrent Resolution 16

Sponsored by Senator SOLLMAN

## 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: Honors the life and memory of Dr. Ralph Franklin Helzerman Jr. (Flesch Readability Score: 64.9).

In memoriam: Dr. Ralph Franklin Helzerman Jr., 1942-2024.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas Dr. Ralph Franklin Helzerman Jr. was born on December 10, 1942, in Pendleton,  
3 Oregon, to Dr. Ralph Franklin Helzerman Sr. and Edna A. (MacKenzie) Helzerman; and

4       Whereas Ralph Helzerman was raised in Tecumseh, Michigan, and he graduated from Tecumseh  
5 High School in 1960; and

6       Whereas Ralph Helzerman received his undergraduate and M.D. degrees from the University  
7 of Michigan; and

8       Whereas during the Vietnam War, Ralph Helzerman served his country with honor and dis-  
9 tinction as a medical officer in the United States Air Force (USAF); and

10       Whereas following his honorable discharge from the USAF, Ralph Helzerman began a residency  
11 in ophthalmology at Oregon Health and Science University's Casey Eye Institute, which he com-  
12 pleted in 1973; and

13       Whereas on June 6, 1964, Ralph Helzerman married the love of his life, Marilyn Pratt, and they  
14 shared 60 happy years of marriage and raised four daughters together; and

15       Whereas after many moves around the country for his medical training and military service,  
16 Ralph Helzerman and his young family settled in Hillsboro, Oregon, where he began to practice  
17 ophthalmology with Dr. Lee Peterson, and together they formed the Hillsboro Eye Clinic, where  
18 Ralph practiced for 37 years until his retirement in 2010; and

19       Whereas Ralph Helzerman was a lifelong learner with an insatiable thirst for knowledge, and  
20 his life was full of hobbies and passions he enjoyed sharing with family and friends, including (to  
21 name just a few!) archery, singing, hunting and fishing, investing, birding, travel, golf, reading,  
22 Hillsboro Hops baseball and University of Michigan athletics; and

23       Whereas Ralph Helzerman sang with the Oregon Chorale for more than 30 years and also served  
24 on its board of directors; and

25       Whereas Ralph Helzerman was a kind and gentle man who touched the lives of countless others  
26 with his spirit and generosity; and

27       Whereas Ralph Helzerman was a firm believer in giving back to the Hillsboro community that  
28 supported him in his years of practicing medicine, and he and Marilyn were selfless volunteers and  
29 generous donors, making an immeasurable impact on their community; and

30       Whereas among the many organizations Ralph and Marilyn Helzerman supported were local

**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 arts organizations and theatre groups, the Hillsboro Public Library, the Hillsboro Schools Founda-  
2 tion, the Hillsboro Hops, the Hillsboro Medical Center Foundation and the Hillsboro Community  
3 Foundation, where Ralph served on the board of directors; and

4       Whereas Ralph and Marilyn Helzerman were instrumental in helping to fund the Walters Cul-  
5 tural Arts Center, Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, Noble Woods Park and the all-inclusive  
6 playground at Hidden Creek Park West; and

7       Whereas Ralph and Marilyn Helzerman were honored by the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce  
8 with the Philanthropic Leadership Award in 2016; and

9       Whereas Ralph Helzerman passed away on October 5, 2024; and

10       Whereas Ralph Helzerman was survived by his beloved wife, Marilyn; their daughters, Kristin,  
11 Laura, Megan and Holly, and their spouses; nine grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews; and

12       Whereas Ralph Helzerman will forever be remembered for the profound and lasting impact he  
13 had on his patients, his community and the people of the State of Oregon; now, therefore,

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

15       That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, honor and celebrate the re-  
16 markable life and achievements of Dr. Ralph Franklin Helzerman Jr., and we express our sincere  
17 and abiding gratitude for his service to the people of this state; and be it further

18       Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Dr. Helzerman as  
19 an expression of our sympathy and condolences.

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