

Senate Concurrent Resolution 206

Sponsored by Senators WAGNER, FREDERICK, MANNING JR, ANDERSON, BROADMAN, CAMPOS, GELSER, BLOUIN, GORSEK, JAMA, SMITH DB, SOLLMAN, TAYLOR, Representative NGUYEN D; Senators DRAZAN, GOLDEN, MCLANE, PHAM K, STARR (Presession 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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Pays respect to the life and memory of Aaron Woods. (Flesch Readability Score: 78.2).
In memoriam: State Senator Aaron Lionel Woods, 1949-2025.

1 CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 Whereas state Senator Aaron Lionel Woods was born in the Woodlawn neighborhood on the
3 South Side of Chicago, Illinois, on August 19, 1949, to Elizabeth and John Woods; and

4 Whereas Aaron Woods was the third of five children, and he attended McCosh Elementary
5 School and graduated from Lindblom Technical High School; and

6 Whereas Aaron Woods had aspirations of becoming a dentist, but he instead enlisted in the
7 United States Army in 1968; and

8 Whereas Aaron Woods proudly served his country with honor and distinction for six years as
9 part of the U.S. Army Strategic Communications Command; and

10 Whereas overseas postings in Germany and Southeast Asia allowed Aaron Woods to travel and
11 see the world during his military career; and

12 Whereas following his military service, Aaron Woods built a distinguished career in technology,
13 eventually settling in Oregon, where he spent many years as a senior executive at Xerox Corpora-
14 tion and Tektronix; and

15 Whereas Aaron Woods' volunteer efforts included serving on boards such as Digitunity, an org-
16 anization dedicated to ensuring equitable access to technology for underserved communities, and
17 the Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA), which works to advance the tech
18 industry's standards and education; and

19 Whereas through his volunteer service, Aaron Woods worked tirelessly to bridge the digital di-
20 vide and expand career and technical education programs to meet industry demands and support
21 community growth; and

22 Whereas Aaron Woods earned an Associate of Applied Science degree from South Suburban
23 College and both a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Business Administration degree from
24 Marylhurst University; and

25 Whereas Aaron Woods' outstanding contributions were recognized through numerous prestigious
26 awards, including induction into the CompTIA IT Industry Hall of Fame, acknowledging his signif-
27 icant impact on the technology industry, and the Tech America Champion Award, highlighting his
28 advocacy for innovation and his community leadership; and

29 Whereas after retiring, Aaron Woods' dedication to his community only grew stronger, and he
30 served in several important roles, including on the Wilsonville Development Review Board

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 (2013-2018), the Wilsonville Planning Commission (2020-2022) and the Clackamas Community College
2 Board of Directors (2019-2025); and

3 Whereas Aaron Woods' commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion was evident in his active
4 leadership with the Wilsonville Alliance for Inclusive Community and the Wilsonville DEI Explora-
5 tory Group; and

6 Whereas in 2022, Aaron Woods was elected to the Oregon Senate as a Democrat representing
7 the people of District 13; and

8 Whereas Aaron Woods was renowned in the Senate for his sense of humor and his irrepressible
9 optimism, but he was also widely respected for his keen political instincts, pragmatic leadership and
10 creative problem solving; and

11 Whereas Aaron Woods considered himself a centrist—a legislator who held moderate views and
12 often sought the middle ground in policy deliberations, working tirelessly to bridge political divides;
13 and

14 Whereas Aaron Woods was a quiet and humble statesman who didn't require big speeches or
15 big headlines to affect policy and people; and

16 Whereas Aaron Woods was deeply committed to serving all Oregonians, and he passionately
17 championed critical issues of vital importance to the people of this state; and

18 Whereas Aaron Woods' legacy extends into the many policy areas he helped shape with his vi-
19 sion and advocacy, which include expanding affordable housing, increasing broadband access, en-
20 hancing cybersecurity protections and addressing the thoughtful integration and ethical implications
21 of artificial intelligence; and

22 Whereas Aaron Woods was dedicated to strengthening STEM education, recognizing its crucial
23 role in preparing future generations for success in a rapidly evolving technological landscape; and

24 Whereas Aaron Woods passed away peacefully in his sleep on April 19, 2025; and

25 Whereas Aaron Woods lost his courageous battle with cancer, but he lived his life with passion
26 and purpose, and he left it with great dignity; and

27 Whereas Aaron Woods was predeceased by his parents; his older brothers, Warren and George;
28 and his beloved wife of 43 years, Shirley; and

29 Whereas Aaron Woods was survived by his five children, Patrice, Aaron Jr., John, Kimone
30 (Fidel) and Kara (David); seven grandchildren, Broderick, Ashia, Christian, J'den, Nala, Olivia and
31 Ava; sister, Angela; brother, Alonzo; and uncle, John Strickland (Joan); and

32 Whereas Aaron Woods died while serving in office as state Senator, working tirelessly for the
33 people of this state; and

34 Whereas Aaron Woods was a dedicated public servant and a visionary leader whose life's
35 mission was to bring technology and opportunity within reach for everyone; now, therefore,

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

37 That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, honor and celebrate the re-
38 markable life and achievements of state Senator Aaron Lionel Woods, and we express our sincere
39 and abiding gratitude for his service to this state; and be it further

40 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Aaron Woods as an
41 expression of our sympathy and condolences.

42