# House Concurrent Resolution 26

Sponsored by Representatives WHISNANT, BOONE, BARTON, Senator THOMSEN

## 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.**

Urges Oregonians to ensure that all families have means to raise their children in healthy environment.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas there were nearly 75,000 reports and more than 11,500 victims of child abuse and neglect in Oregon in 2011; and

Whereas we all have a responsibility as individuals, neighbors, community members and residents of the State of Oregon to help create a healthy, safe and nurturing environment for children; and

Whereas a safe and healthy childhood gives an individual a better chance to be a confident and successful adult; and

Whereas child abuse and neglect often occur when people find themselves in stressful situations, without access to support resources in the community, and are unable to cope; and

Whereas many child abuse and neglect cases stem from situations and conditions that are preventable with the support of an engaged community; and

Whereas child abuse and neglect can be reduced by making sure that families have the support and access to services they need to raise their children in a healthy environment; and

Whereas child abuse and neglect not only directly harm children but also lead to trauma that can increase the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, health problems such as heart disease and obesity and poor academic performance; and

Whereas effective prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among agencies, schools, faith communities, philanthropic and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies and the business community; and

Whereas the purchase of Keep Kids Safe vehicle registration plates provides a sustainable source of revenue for all counties in Oregon to invest in effective child abuse prevention programs; and

Whereas April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly, urge all Oregonians to work together to support programs and build communities that ensure that all families have the means to raise their children in a healthy environment.

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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.