



THE OREGON
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1898

Oregon State Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Members:

As Executive Director of the Oregon Historical Society, I am very proud to write in strong support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 23 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 24. The two remarkable gentlemen these resolutions honor—Tom McAllister, Jr. and Lewis McArthur—both made invaluable contributions to our state, and both are truly deserving of the praise and recognition contained in the resolutions.

Few Oregonians devoted more time and effort to writing about and advocating for Oregon's natural treasures than did Tom McAllister. His service to and leadership of organizations ranging from the Audobon Society of Portland, The Oregon chapter of the Nature Conservancy, the Lewis and Clark Columbia River Water Trail Association, the Oregon State Parks Foundation, the Oregon Wildlife Foundation, and the Oregon Geographic Names Board is legendary.

I am confident in saying that no Oregonian knew more about the history of the names of every town, city, and geographic feature in our state than did Lew McArthur. As the guiding force behind our editions of the landmark reference book, *Oregon Geographic Names*, and as a member of the Oregon Geographic Names Board for an amazing 48 years, Lew McArthur made invaluable contributions to the understanding of Oregon's history.

I am reminded of the following words of the late Governor Tom McCall, who appointed both Tom and Lew to statewide commissions: "Oregon is an inspiration. Whether you come to it, or are born to it, you become entranced by our state's beauty, the opportunity she affords, and the independent spirit of her citizens."

Both Tom McCallister and Lew McArthur were born to Oregon, and both used their independent spirit to protect our state's beauty. Senate Current Resolution 23 and Senate Concurrent Resolution 24 will help ensure that their life and legacy will be long remembered.

Sincerely,

Kerry Tymchuk
Executive Director, Oregon Historical Society