

Enrolled

Senate Concurrent Resolution 28

Sponsored by Senator STEINER HAYWARD, Representative GREENLICK

Whereas Dr. Donald F. Austin was born on November 1, 1937, in Forsyth, Montana, to Dorothy and Harold Austin; and

Whereas Dr. Austin spent most of his childhood in Sutherlin, Oregon, and in 1955 he graduated from Sutherlin High School, where he was president of his senior class; and

Whereas Dr. Austin received his undergraduate degree from the University of Oregon in 1962, his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Oregon Medical School (now Oregon Health and Science University, OHSU) in 1965, a Master of Science in microbiology from OHSU and a Master of Public Health from the University of California (UC), Berkeley; and

Whereas Dr. Austin spent three decades in state and federal health agencies conducting disease-related surveillance, analysis, investigations and research; and

Whereas Dr. Austin's epidemiological research included the effects of industrial air pollution on lung cancer risk, the exposures responsible for an excess of malignant melanomas in a nuclear energy research facility, the effects of drinking alcohol and smoking on oral cancer and the characteristics of an epidemic of uterine cancer in post-menopausal women; and

Whereas in 1993, Dr. Austin helped design and teach the epidemiology curriculum for the Master of Public Health program at OHSU; and

Whereas Dr. Austin was an important contributor to the national Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program, and he ran the SEER cancer registry in the San Francisco Bay Area for many years, using population-based data for descriptive analyses of cancer occurrence in the multiracial population of that geographic area, as well as for analytic studies of multiple cancer sites; and

Whereas Dr. Austin helped design, operate and teach the use of central cancer registries, including statewide cancer reporting systems in Oregon, California, Kentucky and Vermont, as well as in Canada; and

Whereas Dr. Austin was the founding president of the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, and he worked to draft federal legislation to establish the National Program of Cancer Registries; and

Whereas as an adjunct faculty member of the Epidemiology/Biostatistics program at UC Berkeley, Dr. Austin helped design the first course on the use of epidemiology in the assessment of causation; and

Whereas Dr. Austin taught epidemiology courses on causation at OHSU and UC Berkeley for more than 20 years; and

Whereas in 2009, Dr. Austin received a Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award from the OHSU School of Medicine and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Oregon Public Health Association; and

Whereas Dr. Austin co-authored *Causal Inference in Epidemiology: A Practical Approach* with John Stull, William Lambert and David Buckley; and

Whereas Dr. Austin was a founding member of the board of directors of the Tobacco Free Coalition of Oregon, a statewide advocacy organization, and he served in that position for the last 15 years of his life; and

Whereas in 2003, Dr. Austin received the Maurine Neuberger Award in recognition of his dedication, support, long-term leadership and significant contributions to tobacco use prevention and education in Oregon; and

Whereas Dr. Austin was an avid scuba diver, songwriter, dancer and poet; and

Whereas Dr. Austin will be remembered for his intellect, wit and commitment to public health; and

Whereas Dr. Austin was a “rock star” public health professor who was a friend and mentor to countless individuals; and

Whereas Dr. Austin died peacefully at home, surrounded by family members, on October 21, 2018; and

Whereas Dr. Austin is survived by his wife, Susan Teller, his sons, Greg Austin, Cary Austin and Jack Teller Austin, his grandsons, Jesse, Daniel and Martin, and his sisters, Marjorie Jauron and Peggy Coffman; and

Whereas Dr. Austin has passed away, but he will continue to teach as a donor to the OHSU Body Donation Program; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, honor and celebrate the remarkable life and accomplishments of Dr. Donald F. Austin, recognize his contributions to public health all over the world and express our gratitude for his service to the people of this state; and be it further

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

Adopted by Senate March 21, 2019

Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Adopted by House May 7, 2019

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House