

# D R A F T

## SUMMARY

In memoriam: Mike Swaim, 1943-2019.

### CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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Whereas the Honorable Mike Swaim, who served three terms as Mayor of Salem, Oregon, from January 1997 to December 2002, passed away on December 17, 2019; and

Whereas Mike Swaim was a deeply respected leader who made Oregon his home and loved his community for both its history and its future, and he worked actively to improve the quality of life for all; and

Whereas Mike Swaim used his unmatched skills as a lawyer to stand up for everyday people and to defend the rights of all citizens who needed their voices to be heard; and

Whereas Mike Swaim was not afraid to speak up, and he had the courage to stand by his convictions while working across party lines, building coalitions and earning the respect of his opponents; and

Whereas Mike Swaim was a passionate conservationist who understood the special meaning of Oregon's natural wonders, and he sought to protect this heritage for future generations; and

Whereas Mike Swaim boldly and successfully fought to save the ancient old growth forest and mighty waterfalls of Opal Creek, forever preserving this treasure for all to enjoy; and

Whereas during his tenure as mayor, Mike Swaim championed the city's livability while promoting smart growth and valuing community initiatives that could be enjoyed by all segments of the population, including develop-

**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 ment of the Salem Convention Center, Marion Square Skateboard Park and  
2 Riverfront Park, creation of the Salem Outreach Shelter and founding of  
3 Salem Self-Help Housing; and

4 Whereas Mike Swaim spearheaded the passage of city ordinances that  
5 prohibit discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations  
6 based on sexual orientation or gender identity, fostered the creation of Salem  
7 Peace Plaza and Peace Wall, founded the Community Coalition for Affirma-  
8 tive Action and was a founding member of the Nellie Thompson-Dorothy  
9 Patch Scholarship Fund; and

10 Whereas Mike Swaim always sought to lift those around him, to serve  
11 through dedicated and transparent leadership and to engage in the commu-  
12 nity with love and understanding; and

13 Whereas Mike Swaim and his wife Kellie—his high school sweetheart and  
14 partner in life, without whom many of his accomplishments would not have  
15 been possible—made many sacrifices and were together devoted to always  
16 doing their best for those they served while remaining true to their core  
17 values; now, therefore,

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

19 That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, recognize  
20 former Mayor of Salem Mike Swaim for his dedicated service to the City of  
21 Salem and the State of Oregon, and we honor the legacy he leaves behind  
22 as a champion of human rights, social justice and environmental conserva-  
23 tion.

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