

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Establishes rules of proceeding of House of Representatives requiring House committees to continue to accept remote testimony and to continue to invest in emergency preparedness. Directs Speaker of House of Representatives to appoint task force to study creation of nonpartisan Oregon Legislative Education and Outreach Office to develop civics education, and directs task force to report its findings. Requests Legislative Administration Visitor Services to expand and revise education resources to facilitate inclusive access. Requests Legislative Administration and Legislative Policy and Research Office to continue to improve language translation and interpretation services. Requests periodic review of public art displayed in Capitol to ensure art reflects specified values and is welcoming to all Oregonians. Requests Legislative Administrator to research how to make Capitol more user-friendly, including provision of specified sign information. Requests Joint Committee on Ways and Means and Legislative Assembly to provide full funding for upgrading voting system in House of Representatives.

Requests House of Representatives for Eighty-second Legislative Assembly to review progress on recommendations made in resolution.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

Whereas the House Special Committee on Modernizing the People's Legislature held informational and public hearings during the 2021 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly on the following topics:

(a) The Public Commission on the Legislature that met in 2005 and 2006;

(b) How to improve public access to the Legislative Assembly through the provision of language and translation services and virtual testimony;

(c) The experience of being in the Capitol building as a workplace or as a place to visit and learn about Oregon;

(d) The inclusion of Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) and

1 tribal communities;

2 (e) Legislative service and compensation for legislators and legislative
3 staff;

4 (f) Alternative voting methods;

5 (g) School tours of the Capitol and civics education;

6 (h) The challenges of being a member of the Legislative Assembly and
7 navigating other employment;

8 (i) Remote participation in legislative committee proceedings;

9 (j) Student research on reforming Oregon's legislative democracy; and

10 (k) Professional ethics standards for legislative nonpartisan offices; and

11 Whereas the House of Representatives passed House Concurrent Resol-
12 ution 24 in 2017, although the measure failed to be adopted by the Senate;
13 and

14 Whereas Legislative Administration Information Services and the Legis-
15 lative Policy and Research Office took action consistent with House Con-
16 current Resolution 24 (2017) by establishing and implementing the necessary
17 infrastructure to enable remote participation in legislative committee pro-
18 ceedings; and

19 Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic led to the physical closure of access to
20 the Capitol by members of the public and required members of the Legisla-
21 tive Assembly to participate in committee proceedings remotely; and

22 Whereas Oregonians also faced wildfires and an ice storm in 2020 and
23 2021; and

24 Whereas Oregonians are resilient in the face of public health and natural
25 disasters and expect their legislature to be resilient as well; and

26 Whereas resilience warrants the Legislative Assembly to plan for and be
27 prepared for future emergencies that impact the work of the Legislative As-
28 sembly; and

29 Whereas the hard work of Legislative Administration and the Legislative
30 Policy and Research Office made remote committee participation in the 2021
31 regular session possible and a success; and

1 Whereas Legislative Administration Visitor Services is responsible for
2 guided tours of the Capitol; and

3 Whereas Legislative Administration Visitor Services works with the
4 Oregon Department of Education to develop lesson plans in support of Cap-
5 itol tours; and

6 Whereas Capitol tours include a civics education component; and

7 Whereas the Capitol is a visitor destination that includes numerous
8 pieces of public art; and

9 Whereas the Legislative Administrator, pursuant to the performance of
10 the administrator's duties under ORS 173.720, has responsibility for main-
11 taining the permanent and rotating exhibits of art within the Capitol; and

12 Whereas public art within the Capitol includes art acquired through the
13 One Percent for Art Program overseen by the Oregon Arts Commission; and

14 Whereas public art within the Capitol is also exhibited through efforts
15 of the Oregon State Capitol Foundation, which provides funding through the
16 Pacific Wonderland license plate program; and

17 Whereas the House of Representatives uses a voting system that has been
18 in use for many years and is reaching the end of the useful life for the sys-
19 tem; and

20 Whereas the Office of the Chief Clerk has researched the cost and feasi-
21 bility of upgrading the voting system in the House of Representatives; and

22 Whereas the Capitol is also a workplace where many people conduct
23 business; and

24 Whereas Oregon is made up of diverse communities that want to under-
25 stand the legislative process and to feel empowered to engage in the legis-
26 lative process; and

27 Whereas everyone needs to be heard, regardless of race, ethnicity, lan-
28 guages spoken or disability; now, therefore,

29 **Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Oregon:**

30 (1) Subsections (2) and (10) of this resolution constitute rules of proceed-
31 ing of the House of Representatives.

1 (2) Committees of the House of Representatives shall continue to accept
2 remote testimony.

3 (3) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint a task force
4 to study the creation of a nonpartisan legislative office to be known as the
5 Oregon Legislative Education and Outreach Office, to develop a civics edu-
6 cation and outreach plan that is in compliance with curriculum standards
7 for students in primary and secondary grades and that provides instruction
8 on Oregon's form of government. The task force shall prepare a report on its
9 findings and shall submit the report to the Speaker on or before December
10 1, 2022.

11 (4) The House of Representatives requests Legislative Administration
12 Visitor Services to continue to expand and revise lesson plans and other re-
13 sources, including education resources created by the Office of the Chief
14 Clerk, to facilitate inclusive access to the Capitol, including access for
15 children and adults through remote participation by community groups.

16 (5) The House of Representatives requests Legislative Administration and
17 the Legislative Policy and Research Office to continue to improve language
18 translation and interpretation services, in order to ensure that the public
19 has better knowledge about and access to the legislative process.

20 (6) The House of Representatives requests the Oregon Arts Commission
21 to convene a periodic review of public art displayed in the Capitol to ensure
22 that the art reflects the history, present, future, regions, diverse peoples,
23 natural beauty and resources of Oregon, and to also ensure that art in the
24 Capitol is welcoming to all Oregonians.

25 (7) The House of Representatives requests the Legislative Administrator
26 to research adding digital signs outside of committee hearing rooms and on
27 meeting live broadcasts that provide information about measures that is
28 contemporaneous with when those measures are actually being heard in
29 committee.

30 (8) The House of Representatives requests the Legislative Administrator
31 to research how to make the Capitol a more user-friendly environment for

1 all individuals who work in the Capitol, including lobbyists and members of
2 the public.

3 (9) The House of Representatives requests the Joint Committee on Ways
4 and Means and the Legislative Assembly to provide full funding for upgrad-
5 ing the voting system in the House of Representatives.

6 (10) The House of Representatives shall continue to invest in emergency
7 preparedness.

8 (11) The House of Representatives of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly
9 requests the House of Representatives of the Eighty-second Legislative As-
10 sembly to review the progress made on these recommendations in the 2023
11 regular session of the Legislative Assembly.

12
