

# House Concurrent Resolution 33

Sponsored by Representative BOSHART DAVIS

## 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**.

Recognizes and honors retired Oregon State Police Sergeant John Burrigh (1959-2021) for his service to this state.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1           Whereas Oregon State Police Sergeant John Burrigh was born on October 28, 1959, to Helen  
2 and Kenneth Burrigh; and

3           Whereas Sergeant Burrigh grew up in Corvallis, Oregon, with his older siblings Dave and  
4 Mary; and

5           Whereas Sergeant Burrigh graduated from Crescent Valley High School in 1978; and

6           Whereas Sergeant Burrigh attended Oregon State University and, while enrolled as a student,  
7 he worked as a security officer; and

8           Whereas Sergeant Burrigh followed multiple family members into law enforcement, including  
9 his father, Ken, and his brother, Dave, a former Linn County Sheriff; and

10          Whereas 14 Burrigh family members currently work or have formerly worked in careers in-  
11 volving law enforcement; and

12          Whereas Sergeant Burrigh joined the Oregon State Police (OSP) in 1987 at age 27; and

13          Whereas Sergeant Burrigh began working out of the Roseburg OSP office, and he quickly made  
14 a name for himself; and

15          Whereas Sergeant Burrigh transferred to the Albany OSP office in 1989 and later transferred  
16 to the Salem office; and

17          Whereas in 1995, Sergeant Burrigh attended the State of Oregon's first school in the Drug Re-  
18 cognition Expert (DRE) program, and in 1996, he became certified as an expert and served as an  
19 instructor in the DRE school; and

20          Whereas in 1996, Sergeant Burrigh was awarded the OSP's Holly V. Holcomb Award for  
21 heroism, with fellow OSP trooper and good friend Rich Pileggi and OSP Lieutenant Chuck Hayes,  
22 for pulling a man from a burning vehicle; and

23          Whereas in 2001, Sergeant Burrigh received the OSP's trooper of the year award; and

24          Whereas during Sergeant Burrigh's 14-year OSP career, he served in the Patrol Division and  
25 the Criminal Division, and he was one of the original members of the Mobile Response Team; and

26          Whereas Sergeant Burrigh was a courageous and dedicated professional who shared his sense  
27 of humor with all those with whom he came into contact; and

28          Whereas Sergeant Burrigh was a devoted and loving husband to Rhonda, father to three  
29 sons—Kyle, Jeremy and Nolan—and grandfather to Jace and Ari; and

30          Whereas Sergeant Burrigh loved playing all types of sports, and he worked hard to keep his  
31

**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 fitness at a very high level; and

2       Whereas Sergeant Burrright enjoyed camping and fishing with his family and friends; and

3       Whereas the lives of Sergeant Burrright and those closest to him were forever changed on Sep-  
4 tember 4, 2001; and

5       Whereas on that evening, Sergeant Burrright, OSP Senior Trooper Maria Mignano and Officer  
6 Jason Hoerauf of the Albany Police Department were struck by a vehicle on Interstate-5 near  
7 Albany as they were assisting a family whose van had broken down on the highway; and

8       Whereas Senior Trooper Mignano and Officer Hoerauf were killed instantly and Sergeant  
9 Burrright sustained critical injuries from which he never recovered and which caused him to med-  
10 ically retire in 2002; and

11       Whereas from December 2001 to May 4, 2021, Sergeant Burrright received around-the-clock care  
12 from a private care facility in Albany; and

13       Whereas despite Sergeant Burrright’s injuries, his wife recalls that he had the ability to com-  
14 prehend everything in his surroundings and that he was able to hear and communicate through  
15 facial expressions, eye rolls and laughter; and

16       Whereas Sergeant Burrright was fully aware that he was well taken care of and loved by his  
17 family, friends and the entire staff who tended to him at the care facility; and

18       Whereas Sergeant Burrright fought for his life with toughness and bravery, and his tremendous  
19 physical fitness played a role in his survival; and

20       Whereas Sergeant Burrright died on May 4, 2021, almost 20 years after he sustained his trau-  
21 matic injuries; and

22       Whereas OSP officials attributed Sergeant Burrright’s early death to the injuries he sustained  
23 on September 4, 2001, and they designated his passing as a “line of duty” death; and

24       Whereas Sergeant Burrright was the 34th OSP trooper to die in the line of duty; and

25       Whereas Sergeant Burrright is survived by his wife and their three sons, two grandchildren, his  
26 mother, his brother, his sister and many other family members, friends and colleagues who honor  
27 him; and

28       Whereas on April 21, 2016, in a dedication ceremony held outside the new OSP headquarters  
29 building, a Salem street was named in honor of Sergeant Burrright; and

30       Whereas Sergeant Burrright was a dedicated law enforcement officer who served the people of  
31 the State of Oregon with honor and distinction; now, therefore,

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

33       That we, the members of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor Sergeant  
34 John Burrright for his service to this state.

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