

Senate Concurrent Resolution 3

Sponsored by Senator STEINER HAYWARD, Representative NOSSE, Senator RILEY (Pre-session filed.)

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**.

In memoriam: Representative Merwyn Ronald "Mitch" Greenlick, 1935-2020.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas Representative Merwyn Ronald "Mitch" Greenlick was born in Detroit, Michigan, on
3 March 12, 1935; and

4 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick graduated from Central High School in Detroit in
5 1952; and

6 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick received a bachelor's degree in pharmacy in 1957 from
7 Wayne State University, a master's degree in pharmacy administration from Wayne State University
8 in 1961 and a Ph.D. in health system organization from the University of Michigan in 1967; and

9 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick and his wife Harriet were married in 1956, and to-
10 gether they raised three children; and

11 Whereas in 1964, Representative Mitch Greenlick moved with his family to Portland, Oregon,
12 to start the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research, which he directed for 30 years; and

13 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in
14 1971; and

15 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was vice president for research of Kaiser Foundation
16 Hospitals; and

17 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was the first director of the Kaiser Permanente dental
18 program, working toward an integrated model for dental and medical health; and

19 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was an esteemed educator, serving as a professor and
20 chair of the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine at the Oregon Health and Sci-
21 ence University School of Medicine and as an adjunct professor of sociology and social work at
22 Portland State University; and

23 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was the author or coauthor of several books and more
24 than 100 professional publications; and

25 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick's work at Kaiser Permanente and the Oregon Health
26 Sciences Institute brought in hundreds of millions of dollars of funding for health systems and the
27 State of Oregon; and

28 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was a board member of the Community Action Or-
29 ganization in Washington County and a founding member of the Northwest Health Foundation; and

30 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick served on the board of Metropolitan Public Defender,
31 the Public Employees' Benefit Board and the Oregon State Hospital Advisory Board; and

32 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick fought for Oregon's children and families, and he or-

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 ganized the first Head Start program in Washington County; and

2 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was a social justice warrior who worked tirelessly to
3 extend health care to vulnerable Oregonians and underserved communities; and

4 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick started and led an AmeriCorps Volunteers in Service
5 to America group that performed vital work in migrant farmworker camps and he was instrumental
6 in establishing a program that provided free medical care to farmworkers-efforts that resulted in the
7 creation of the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center; and

8 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick first got involved in politics at the age of nine by
9 volunteering for Franklin Delano Roosevelt's 1944 presidential campaign; and

10 Whereas after moving to Oregon, Representative Mitch Greenlick worked for a number of
11 Portland and statewide political campaigns; and

12 Whereas in 2002, Representative Mitch Greenlick was elected to the Oregon House of Repre-
13 sentatives as a Democrat representing portions of Multnomah and Washington Counties; and

14 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was beloved by the community he served, after 2002
15 never winning an election with less than 64 percent of the vote, and he faced a primary challenger
16 only once, in 2006, an election he won with 92 percent of the vote; and

17 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick served with distinction on many legislative commit-
18 tees, including as chair of the House Committee on Health Care for many years, member of the
19 House Committee on Judiciary and chair of the House Committee on Conduct; and

20 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was committed to expanding and improving health
21 care in the State of Oregon, and his leadership and dedication saved countless lives; and

22 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick's early and influential efforts to adopt electronic
23 medical records for research purposes would help inspire the use of universal electronic medical
24 records for improved service delivery; and

25 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick partnered with Portland State University and Oregon
26 State University to create the Oregon Master of Public Health Program-the first graduate program
27 in public health in the State of Oregon; and

28 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick played instrumental roles in health system transfor-
29 mation in Oregon, beginning in the 1980s with the development of the Oregon Health Plan and
30 continuing with the separation of the Oregon Health Authority from the Department of Human
31 Services, the establishment of coordinated care organizations and the reform of Oregon's public
32 health system; and

33 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was awarded the 1995 Presidential Award by the As-
34 sociation for Health Services Research for his lifetime achievements in health services research, the
35 2005 Public Health Genius Award by the Oregon Public Health Institute and the 2019 Lifetime
36 Achievement Award by the Oregon Public Health Association; and

37 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was a tough and fearless advocate for working class
38 Oregonians, and he was deeply committed to improving their quality of life and giving them the
39 chance to prosper; and

40 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was noted for his integrity, compassion and
41 unwavering moral compass, and he was a beloved (and sometimes feared) mentor for countless stu-
42 dents and colleagues; and

43 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick died peacefully at home, surrounded by family mem-
44 bers, on May 15, 2020; and

45 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick died while serving in office, doing what he loved and

1 working tirelessly for the people of this state; and

2 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was survived by his beloved wife, Harriet, his three
3 children, Phyllis, Vicki and Michael, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and

4 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was a champion of health care as a basic human right,
5 and he inspired countless others in the fight for justice; and

6 Whereas Representative Mitch Greenlick was a great statesman and a guiding force on Oregon
7 health care policy, and he will forever be remembered for his decades of dedicated public service
8 to the State of Oregon; now, therefore,

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

10 That we, the members of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly, honor and celebrate the re-
11 markable life and achievements of Representative Merwyn Ronald “Mitch” Greenlick, and we ex-
12 press our sincere and abiding gratitude for his service to the Legislative Assembly and to all
13 Oregonians; and be it further

14 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Representative Mitch
15 Greenlick as an expression of our sympathy and condolences.

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