

Senate Concurrent Resolution 6

Sponsored by Senator GIROD (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**.

Commends Mill City Rural Fire Protection District and other first responders for their heroic actions in fighting Santiam Fire.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas on August 16, 2020, thunderstorms moved across the State of Oregon and lightning
3 ignited multiple wildfires, including the Beachie Creek Fire, the Lionshead Fire and the P-515 Fire;
4 and

5 Whereas on September 7, powerful winds caused the wildfires to explode in size and merge into
6 the Santiam Fire, a situation exacerbated by multiple spot fires caused by downed power lines; and

7 Whereas in the early morning hours of September 8, the Santiam Fire raced westward down the
8 Santiam Canyon, quickly endangering many communities, including Detroit, Gates, Idanha, Lyons
9 and Mill City; and

10 Whereas residents of the Santiam Canyon were urgently evacuated and fire crews were ordered
11 to fall back in the face of the catastrophic and unpredictable wind-whipped wildfire; and

12 Whereas facing the possibility of massive property destruction and loss of lives, the firefighters
13 of the Mill City Rural Fire Protection District stood their ground and desperately fought to save
14 their community; and

15 Whereas Chief Leland Ohrt and approximately 30 volunteers battled the raging wildfire and kept
16 it from roaring through the heart of Mill City; and

17 Whereas Mill City Mayor Tim Kirsch said, "our local guys stayed because this is their home";
18 and

19 Whereas due to the heroic actions of the firefighters, Mill City emerged from the wildfire largely
20 intact; and

21 Whereas the wildfire scarred many properties, but an estimated 90 percent of Mill City's homes
22 and businesses survived and there was no loss of life in the community; and

23 Whereas the Santiam Fire was ultimately one of the most destructive wildfires in the history
24 of the State of Oregon; and

25 Whereas in the aftermath of the wildfire, Mill City residents have begun rebuilding efforts in
26 their own community, but they have also devoted themselves and their resources to helping their
27 Santiam Canyon sister cities, which suffered horrific destruction; now, therefore,

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

29 That we, the members of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor the actions
30 of the firefighters of the Mill City Rural Fire Protection District, who battled the Santiam Fire and
31 saved their community; and be it further

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.

SCR 6

1 Resolved, That we express our gratitude to all the public and private entities and first
2 responders who fought the Santiam Fire with heroism and great determination; and be it further

3 Resolved, That we extend our sympathy and condolences to the many Oregonians who suffered
4 unimaginable loss as a result of the Santiam Fire, and we declare our full support for the massive
5 rebuilding effort in the affected communities.

6
