

**Enrolled**  
**House Concurrent Resolution 202**

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Rules for Representative Shelly Boshart Davis)

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

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

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

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

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

Whereas 14 Burrighrigh family members currently work or have formerly worked in careers involving law enforcement; and

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

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

Whereas Sergeant Burrighrigh transferred to the Albany OSP office in 1989 and later transferred to the Salem office; and

Whereas in 1995, Sergeant Burrighrigh attended the State of Oregon's first school in the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) program, and in 1996, he became certified as an expert and served as an instructor in the DRE school; and

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

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

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

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

Whereas Sergeant Burrighrigh was a devoted and loving husband to Rhonda, father to three sons-Kyle, Jeremy and Nolan-and grandfather to Jace and Ari; and

Whereas Sergeant Burrighrigh loved playing all types of sports, and he worked hard to keep his fitness at a very high level; and

Whereas Sergeant Burrighrigh enjoyed camping and fishing with his family and friends; and

Whereas the lives of Sergeant Burrighrigh and those closest to him were forever changed on September 4, 2001; and

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

Whereas Senior Trooper Mignano and Officer Hoerauf were killed instantly and Sergeant Burrighrigh sustained critical injuries from which he never recovered and which caused him to medically retire in 2002; and

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

Whereas despite Sergeant Burright's injuries, his wife recalls that he had the ability to comprehend everything in his surroundings and that he was able to hear and communicate through facial expressions, eye rolls and laughter; and

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

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

Whereas Sergeant Burright died on May 4, 2021, almost 20 years after he sustained his traumatic injuries; and

Whereas OSP officials attributed Sergeant Burright's early death to the injuries he sustained on September 4, 2001, and they designated his passing as a "line of duty" death; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Adopted by House February 9, 2022

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Dan Rayfield, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate February 28, 2022

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate