

Enrolled House Bill 3532

Sponsored by Representative SANCHEZ, Senator MANNING JR; Representatives CHAICHI, FRAGALA, GRAYBER, HARTMAN, ISADORE, NELSON, PHAM H, Senators BROADMAN, MEEK

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to offensive names; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

(a) “Interested party” means an individual or entity with a right to property that may be affected by a change of name pursuant to this section.

(b) “Offensive” means insulting and derogatory to any of Oregon’s nine federally recognized Indian tribes or to any race, nationality or ethnicity.

(2) The executive secretary of the Oregon Geographic Names Board shall:

(a) Compile a list of geographic features including, but not limited to, mountains, buttes, gulleys, gulches, rivers and creeks in Oregon that bear offensive names; and

(b) Begin a process of determining new names for the geographic features.

(3)(a) In fulfilling the duties imposed under subsection (2) of this section, the executive secretary shall consult with:

(A) The Oregon Geographic Names Board;

(B) Oregon’s nine federally recognized Indian tribes;

(C) County and municipal leaders;

(D) Representatives of state government;

(E) Local landowners; and

(F) Interested parties.

(b) Leaders and representatives shall be consulted only with respect to geographic features within the jurisdictions they represent.

(4)(a) The executive secretary shall provide the following items to the persons listed in paragraph (b) of this subsection:

(A) The list compiled under subsection (2)(a) of this section;

(B) A summary of the process by which geographic features are named; and

(C) Detailed instructions on how Oregonians may propose a name for a geographic feature.

(b) The persons referred to in paragraph (a) of this subsection are:

(A) All members of the Legislative Assembly on the date on which the list is provided;

(B) Oregon’s nine federally recognized Indian tribes;

(C) All members of the governing bodies of all Oregon counties on the date on which the list is provided; and

(D) All county historical societies in this state.

(5) The executive secretary shall submit proposals to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names recommending names that are not offensive for all geographic features on the list compiled under subsection (2)(a) of this section no later than the date that is three years following the effective date of this 2025 Act.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2029.

SECTION 3. (1) The executive secretary of the Oregon Geographic Names Board shall submit a report, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, on the progress made in fulfilling the duties imposed under section 1 of this 2025 Act, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to history, no later than February 1, 2026.

(2) The executive secretary shall provide the list as required under section 1 (4) of this 2025 Act no later than August 1, 2026.

SECTION 4. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by House May 6, 2025

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate May 29, 2025

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Rob Wagner, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2025

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2025

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Tina Kotek, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2025

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Tobias Read, Secretary of State