

B-Engrossed House Bill 3532

Ordered by the House May 1
Including House Amendments dated April 11 and May 1

Sponsored by Representative SANCHEZ; Representatives GRAYBER, HARTMAN, PHAM H

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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act would have the Oregon Geographic Names Board make a list of offensive geographic names in Oregon. The Act would have the board suggest new names within three years of the Act's passage. The Act would require a report to be turned in to the Legislative Assembly next year. (Flesch Readability Score: 68.0).

[Digest: The Act tells the Oregon Historical Society to make a list of offensive geographic names. The Act tells the society to suggest new names within three years of the Act's passage. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.1).]

Directs the [Oregon Historical Society] **Oregon Geographic Names Board**, in consultation with [the Oregon Geographic Names Board,] federally recognized Indian tribes, state and local government leaders, local landowners and other interested parties, to compile a list of [highways and] geographic features in Oregon that bear offensive names. Requires the [society] **board** to recommend nonoffensive names to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names no later than three years following the effective date of this Act.

Sunset on January 2, 2029.

Requires the board to submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to history no later than February 1, 2026.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR 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

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 (F) Interested parties.

2 (b) Leaders and representatives shall be consulted only with respect to geographic fea-
3 tures within the jurisdictions they represent.

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

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

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

8 (C) Detailed instructions on how Oregonians may propose a name for a geographic fea-
9 ture.

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

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

12 (B) Oregon's nine federally recognized Indian tribes;

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

15 (D) All county historical societies in this state.

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

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

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

25 (2) The executive secretary shall provide the list as required under section 1 (4) of this
26 2025 Act no later than August 1, 2026.

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