

House Concurrent Resolution 24

Sponsored by Representative BOWMAN

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

Digest: Honors the life and memory of Henk Pander. (Flesch Readability Score: 71.8).
In memoriam: Hendrik Pieter "Henk" Pander, 1937-2023.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas Hendrik Pieter "Henk" Pander was born on November 21, 1937, in Haarlem, the
3 Netherlands, the oldest of 10 children of Hendrica Smedes Pander and Jacob Pander; and

4 Whereas Henk Pander enthusiastically followed in the footsteps of his artist father, and at a
5 young age he was already regarded as a rising star in the Dutch art world; and

6 Whereas Henk Pander trained for five years at the prestigious Rijksakademie in Amsterdam,
7 where he won several commissions and prizes; and

8 Whereas a crucial portion of Henk Pander's childhood was lived during the five-year occupation
9 of the Netherlands by Nazi Germany during World War II, which meant that Henk Pander had to
10 grow up far too fast in the face of trauma and inhumanity; and

11 Whereas much of Henk Pander's art for the rest of his life drew on his experiences during the
12 war and occupation, including "Raid Over Haarlem (The Father)," which portrays the terror of a
13 bombing air raid, and "The Floor," which depicts two Jewish youths hiding beneath floorboards as
14 German soldiers search the room above them; and

15 Whereas in 1965, following the birth of his first son, Henk Pander moved to Portland, Oregon,
16 and his passion for family kept him in Oregon with his sons Jacob and Arnold; and

17 Whereas being an immigrant to the United States, Henk Pander often felt like an outsider, an
18 identity that he brought to his work; and

19 Whereas Henk Pander struck out fiercely on his own artistic path, largely ignoring trends and
20 pursuing his unique vision; and

21 Whereas Henk Pander collaborated frequently with performing artists, designing sets for
22 Portland's Storefront Theatre and other theater companies and dance groups; and

23 Whereas when his close friend Ric Young was dying of AIDS, Henk Pander created large, re-
24 markable and loving end-of-life portraits of Young; and

25 Whereas Henk Pander became, despite his reservations, an important player in the art world in
26 Portland and Oregon, and he was a counterbalance to that art scene's regional inclinations even as
27 he helped to reshape them; and

28 Whereas Henk Pander's work was described by art critic Bob Hicks as a fusion of "the long
29 tradition of Dutch art with the frontier edge of the Pacific Northwest and a keen outsider's feeling
30 for the American psyche"; and

31 Whereas Henk Pander was attracted by the grandeur of the Pacific Northwest's landscapes—so

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 different from his native Netherlands—which featured in many of his works, often involving scenes
2 of destruction, such as the eruption of Mount St. Helens or the wreck of the *New Carissa* off the
3 Oregon coast; and

4 Whereas Henk Pander’s works are in many prestigious collections around the world, including
5 the Rijksmuseum (Amsterdam), Museum Henriette Polak (Zutphen, the Netherlands), City of
6 Amsterdam, City of Portland, Jet Propulsion Laboratory (Pasadena), Portland Art Museum, Frye Art
7 Museum (Seattle), Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art (University of Oregon) and Hallie Ford Museum
8 of Art (Willamette University); and

9 Whereas a 50-year retrospective exhibition of Henk Pander’s work was shown at the Hallie Ford
10 Museum of Art in 2011; and

11 Whereas Henk Pander’s public commissions are found in numerous locations across the state,
12 including Oregon State University, the Oregon Public Safety Academy and the Portland Center for
13 the Visual Arts; and

14 Whereas Henk Pander’s drawing books, papers and related materials are housed in the Pacific
15 Northwest Artists Archive at the Mark O. Hatfield Library of Willamette University; and

16 Whereas the Rijksmuseum, which houses the work of such world-renowned artists as Rembrandt
17 and Johannes Vermeer, named Henk Pander’s painting “New World,” which depicts a field of aban-
18 doned fighter planes, as one of the 100 greatest works on paper in its collections; and

19 Whereas Henk Pander’s portraits of Oregon Governors Tom McCall and John Kitzhaber, which
20 hang in the State Capitol in Salem, are landmarks of Oregon history and culture; and

21 Whereas Henk Pander died on April 7, 2023, at the age of 85; now, therefore,

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

23 That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, commemorate the remarkable
24 life of Hendrik Pieter “Henk” Pander, and we recognize his monumental artistic and cultural legacy
25 in the State of Oregon; and be it further

26 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Henk Pander as an
27 expression of our sympathy and condolences.

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