

# House Joint Memorial 12

Sponsored by Representative YUNKER

## 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: Asks the President, the NPS and Congress to find money to fix a certain historic place in Oregon. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.6).

Urges the President of the United States, the Director of the National Park Service and the Congress of the United States to provide the funding needed to complete the full historic restoration of the Chateau at Oregon Caves National Monument.

## JOINT MEMORIAL

1  
2 To the President of the United States, the Director of the National Park Service and the Senate and  
3 the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

4 We, your memorialists, the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legisla-  
5 tive session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

6 Whereas the Chateau at Oregon Caves National Monument, located in rural Josephine County,  
7 is one of the National Park Service's (NPS) iconic Great Lodges, a designated National Historic  
8 Landmark and one of Oregon's greatest treasures; and

9 Whereas completed in 1934, the Chateau was designed by local builder Gust Lium, following the  
10 vision of renowned landscape architect Arthur Peck; and

11 Whereas the Chateau's use of local materials, including cedar bark from Port Orford and marble  
12 from the Oregon Caves, showcases a harmonious integration with the surrounding environment and  
13 offers an astonishing glimpse into Oregon's past; and

14 Whereas in 2017, the Chateau began undergoing a comprehensive rehabilitation project to pre-  
15 serve its historic integrity while modernizing it to meet contemporary safety and accessibility stan-  
16 dards, but the project revealed a need for extensive repairs; and

17 Whereas in 2022, the NPS put the project on hold because it did not have the funds necessary  
18 to complete the work and reopen the Chateau to the public; and

19 Whereas the Chateau has been closed to the public since 2018, and after six years of stops,  
20 starts and lost momentum to complete the necessary rehabilitation work, its future is in jeopardy;  
21 and

22 Whereas the Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau are advancing a campaign to assist the  
23 NPS in funding the repairs and restoration of the Chateau, which is a vital part of the heritage of  
24 Oregon and the United States of America; and

25 Whereas completed restoration of the Chateau will return an irreplaceable historic landmark to  
26 its former glory and bolster Southern Oregon's critical hospitality business, bringing new gener-  
27 ations of visitors to the park and to nearby communities; and

28 Whereas the NPS and the Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau still have a long way to  
29 go toward securing the funding needed to complete this crucial restoration project; 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       Whereas 2025 will be critical to sustaining and growing leadership support and building more  
2 robust strategies for fundraising the restoration of the Chateau and saving one of Oregon's most  
3 treasured places; now, therefore,

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

5       That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, respectfully urge the President  
6 of the United States, the Director of the National Park Service and the Congress of the United  
7 States to provide the funding needed to complete the full historic restoration of the Chateau at  
8 Oregon Caves National Monument; and be it further

9       Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, the  
10 Director of the National Park Service, the Senate Majority Leader, the Speaker of the House of  
11 Representatives and each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

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