

# House Joint Memorial 3

Sponsored by Representative EVANS (Pre-session filed.)

## 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: The measure asks for a special master to have a role in changes to U.S. laws about the environment and nature to make sure that the views of the states are thought about. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.1).

Requests the federal government to appoint a special master to ensure that any restructuring of federal environmental and natural resource laws and policies be undertaken in cooperation and collaboration with the states.

## JOINT MEMORIAL

1  
2 To the President of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States and the Senate  
3 and 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 United States Constitution establishes a federal system of government under which  
7 a national government has some powers and responsibilities, some powers and responsibilities are  
8 shared between the national government and state governments and some powers and responsibil-  
9 ities are solely the province of state governments; and

10 Whereas the environmental stewardship of this nation's natural resources is a critical respon-  
11 sibility of the national government of the United States that is also a shared responsibility of the  
12 states; and

13 Whereas the President of the United States and certain Congressional leaders have expressed  
14 an interest in rolling back federal environmental protections and environmental laws and regu-  
15 lations; and

16 Whereas the repeal of federal environmental standards will have a significant impact on federal  
17 and state lands in Oregon, on Oregon's economy and on cultural and historic values shared by all  
18 Oregonians; and

19 Whereas any major restructuring of federal environmental standards must be done thoughtfully  
20 and with cooperation and collaboration with those states that are impacted by federal actions; and

21 Whereas Oregon has decades of successful experience promoting a model of environmental and  
22 natural resource stewardship that results in high standards of livability and sustainability while also  
23 having long-term economic growth; and

24 Whereas the appointment of a special master would facilitate communication and collaboration  
25 between the states and the federal government in any significant restructuring of federal environ-  
26 mental and natural resource protection laws; and

27 Whereas there is precedent for the executive branch appointing a special master, as for example  
28 when then-Attorney General of the United States John Ashcroft appointed Kenneth Feinberg as

**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 special master to oversee compensation for victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks; now,  
2 therefore,

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

4 That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, respectfully request the ap-  
5 pointment of a special master to ensure that any restructuring of federal environmental and natural  
6 resource laws and policies be undertaken in cooperation and collaboration with the states and to  
7 ensure that Oregon's model of natural resource stewardship be considered by federal authorities;  
8 and be it further

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

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