

Senate Concurrent Resolution 21

Sponsored by Senator BONHAM (at the request of Chris Willis, General Manager, Multnomah Falls, Co., Inc.)

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 lodge at Multnomah Falls. (Flesch Readability Score: 73.8).
Commemorates the 100th anniversary of Multnomah Falls Lodge.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas the spectacularly beautiful Columbia River Gorge, formed by ancient volcanoes and
3 sculpted by massive floods, is an impressive corridor for the mighty river as it flows through the
4 Cascade Mountains on its way to the Pacific Ocean; and

5 Whereas stretching for 85 miles through this jaw-dropping natural splendor is the Columbia
6 River Gorge National Scenic Area; and

7 Whereas at the heart of the scenic area is magnificent Multnomah Falls, Oregon's tallest
8 waterfall, which drops 620 feet from the cliffs above the Historic Columbia River Highway; and

9 Whereas in the early 1900s, land around Multnomah Falls was donated to the City of Portland
10 by lumber baron and philanthropist Simon Benson, and further donations were made by the
11 Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation Company under the condition that the city would fund
12 construction of a lodge for visitors; and

13 Whereas the city commissioned design of the lodge to famed architect Albert E. Doyle, who also
14 designed many other landmark Portland buildings; and

15 Whereas in 1925, construction on Multnomah Falls Lodge was completed, and the facility was
16 opened to the public with great fanfare; and

17 Whereas the lodge was constructed by the Shattuck Company for \$40,000 (equivalent to roughly
18 \$700,000 in 2025) in the Cascadian style, using timber and every type of rock naturally found in the
19 Columbia River Gorge; and

20 Whereas the lodge originally had dormitories and rooms for overnight stays; and

21 Whereas several significant remodels and additions have occurred over the decades, and the
22 lodge currently offers visitors a restaurant, interpretive center, gift shop, snack bar and other ser-
23 vices; and

24 Whereas ownership of Multnomah Falls Lodge was transferred from the City of Portland to the
25 United States Forest Service in 1939; and

26 Whereas the lodge was closed during World War II from November 1942 until February 1946;
27 and

28 Whereas the lodge has escaped numerous natural disasters, including floods, rock falls, land-
29 slides and fires, most recently the Eagle Creek Fire in 2017; and

30 Whereas in 1981, Multnomah Falls Lodge and the surrounding footpaths were added to the Na-
31 tional Register of Historic Places; 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 Multnomah Falls and its iconic lodge attract millions of visitors each year from all
2 over the world, making it the most visited natural recreation site in the Pacific Northwest; and

3 Whereas Multnomah Falls Lodge is a true Oregon treasure; and

4 Whereas Multnomah Falls Lodge is set to launch another century as a historic landmark that
5 showcases the beauty, history and spirit of adventure of the Columbia River Gorge; now, therefore,

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

7 That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, commemorate the 100th anni-
8 versary of historic and iconic Multnomah Falls Lodge; and be it further

9 Resolved, That we encourage all Oregonians to join us in late September 2025 to celebrate this
10 significant public milestone.

11
