

Enrolled

Senate Concurrent Resolution 7

Sponsored by Senator SOLLMAN (Presession filed.)

Whereas Dr. Phillip David Creighton was born on June 18, 1945, to Daniel K. Creighton and Dorothy Patterson Creighton in Irwin, Pennsylvania; and

Whereas Phil Creighton attended the United States Air Force Academy before transferring to Tarkio College in Missouri, where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1966; and

Whereas Phil Creighton received his master's and doctorate degrees from Colorado State University in 1970 and 1974, respectively; and

Whereas after a teaching career at Towson State University in Maryland, Phil Creighton assumed the role of provost and vice president of academic affairs at Salisbury State University in Maryland; and

Whereas in 1999, Phil Creighton became president at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, Oregon, serving in that role until 2003; and

Whereas Phil Creighton served as president of Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon, from 2003 to 2009; and

Whereas during his remarkable tenure at Pacific, Phil Creighton oversaw a period of growth that transformed this institution from a small liberal arts college into one of the region's top comprehensive universities; and

Whereas under Phil Creighton's leadership, six new buildings transformed Pacific's existing campus, and a new athletic complex opened in 2008, energizing team sports for the Pacific Boxers and the community; and

Whereas financially, Phil Creighton oversaw one of the most prosperous periods in Pacific's 175-year history, turning the \$3 million deficit he inherited in 2003 into a surplus of millions of dollars by 2009; and

Whereas Phil Creighton was instrumental in the establishment in 2006 of the Pacific University Hillsboro Campus, which offers a wide variety of graduate and professional programs in the health professions and business; and

Whereas in honor of Phil Creighton's tenure at Pacific and to secure his legacy, the original building of the Hillsboro Campus was dedicated as Creighton Hall in 2009; and

Whereas on campus, Phil Creighton was known for his personable demeanor, and he had a knack for remembering the names and faces of just about anyone he encountered; and

Whereas Phil Creighton was fondly nicknamed "Dr. Phil," and he was an immensely popular figure with students, colleagues, alumni and the wider Pacific community; and

Whereas in retirement, Phil Creighton continued to give back to Pacific by serving as president emeritus, lending his vast experience and wisdom to the university's continuing growth and quest for excellence; and

Whereas Phil Creighton and his wife, Leigh, split time in retirement between their homes in Arizona and Colorado and, as avid birders, they spent many happy hours together traveling around the western United States searching for species to check off on their "life list"; and

Whereas on September 16, 2024, Phil Creighton passed away at his home in Colorado, with his family by his side; and

Whereas Phil Creighton was survived by his beloved wife, Leigh; daughter, Natalie; son, David; brother, Douglas; sister, Sally; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren; and

Whereas Phil Creighton loved being an educator, and he taught and mentored generations of students, making an immeasurable impact on countless lives; and

Whereas Phil Creighton was renowned for his integrity, work ethic, dedication and vision, which combined to make him a special person and an extraordinary educator; and

Whereas Phil Creighton will forever be remembered for his decades of dedicated service in higher education and the profound and lasting impact he had on his students, his community and the people of the State of Oregon; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, honor and celebrate the remarkable life and achievements of Dr. Phillip David Creighton, and we express our sincere and abiding gratitude for his service to the people of this state; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Dr. Creighton as an expression of our sympathy and condolences.

Adopted by Senate February 27, 2025

Obadiah Rutledge, Secretary of Senate

Rob Wagner, President of Senate

Adopted by House June 10, 2025

Julie Fahey, Speaker of House