

## OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, members of the Committee,

I'm writing today to voice my strong support for SCR 24, a resolution that recognizes and honors the life and service of Brian Edward Flowers, a firefighter, husband, father, and friend whose impact on his community will never be forgotten.

Brian spent 15 years serving with the Gresham Fire Department—15 years of answering calls in the middle of the night, putting himself in harm's way, and showing up for people on what was likely the worst day of their lives. He gave everything to his community, and in the end, he gave even more—passing away on November 19, 2023, from occupational leukemia, an illness caused by the very job he dedicated his life to.

Brian's impact stretched far beyond his profession. He was a husband to his high school sweetheart, Elsie, and a father to three incredible children—Carina, Darian, and Anthony. His profound influence inspired his son Darian to follow in his footsteps and become a firefighter—just two months before losing his father and mentor.

To hear from those who knew Brian is to hear about a man who led with kindness, generosity, and humor—qualities that made him larger than life. Stories continue to emerge from community members who recall small but powerful acts of service: helping a neighbor without expectation of payment, cracking a joke to ease someone's burdens, or simply showing up when someone needed him most. That's just who Brian was.

Brian Flowers embodied selflessness, courage, and dedication to community, and it is only fitting that we recognize his service and ensure that his contributions to Gresham and Oregon are never forgotten. I stand with Brian's family, his fellow firefighters, and his entire community in urging your support for SCR 24.



## **OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Thank you.

Representative Annessa Hartman

House District 40 – Gladstone, Oregon City, North Clackamas County