

# Senate Concurrent Resolution 23

Sponsored by Senator JOHNSON

## 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**.

In memoriam: Thomas Herbert McAllister Jr., 1926-2018.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas Thomas Herbert McAllister Jr. was born on May 6, 1926, in Portland, Oregon, to  
3 Thomas Herbert McAllister Sr. and Winifred Layley McAllister; and

4       Whereas Tom McAllister's lifelong love affair with nature began at an early age with a class  
5 called "Nature Study" in the Portland Public Schools; and

6       Whereas during high school Tom McAllister was a volunteer naturalist at the Malheur National  
7 Wildlife Refuge and served as a fire lookout on Hager Mountain; and

8       Whereas Tom McAllister graduated from Grant High School in Portland in 1943; and

9       Whereas Tom McAllister served in the United States Navy during World War II, helping to set  
10 up a naval hospital at Camp Adair, Oregon, and working as a pharmacist's mate in the Philippines;  
11 and

12       Whereas after the war, Tom McAllister worked during the summers on a 12-mule pack team  
13 hauling fingerling trout to stock high lakes in the Cascade Mountains; and

14       Whereas in 1948, Tom McAllister married Barbara Lou Butler, and they raised a family of four  
15 children and six grandchildren; and

16       Whereas in 1950, Tom McAllister graduated from Oregon State College (now Oregon State  
17 University), earning one of the first degrees offered by the college in its newly established discipline  
18 of fish and wildlife management; and

19       Whereas after graduating from college, Tom McAllister worked for the Oregon Game Commis-  
20 sion (now the State Department of Fish and Wildlife); and

21       Whereas in 1953, Tom McAllister was employed by the *Oregon Journal* in a newly created po-  
22 sition as outdoor editor, and he wrote the popular column "Wide Open Spaces," along with a winter  
23 skiing column, until the paper merged with *The Oregonian* in 1982; and

24       Whereas Tom McAllister continued as an outdoor editor and columnist at *The Oregonian* until  
25 retiring in 1992 after 39 years of full-time journalism; and

26       Whereas Tom McAllister worked for 15 years as a historian and naturalist for Lindblad Expe-  
27 ditions cruises in Alaska and on the Columbia River; and

28       Whereas Tom McAllister first joined the Audubon Society of Portland at the age of 12 years,  
29 and he continued to be an active member for a remarkable 78 years, becoming the society's oldest  
30 member; and

31       Whereas Tom McAllister was a longtime member of the Oregon Historical Society, the Oregon  
32 Field Ornithologists, the Oregon Duck Hunters Association and The Wildlife Society and a founding

**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 member of the Flyfishers' Club of Oregon and the Oregon chapter of The Nature Conservancy; and

2       Whereas Tom McAllister was a founding member of the Lewis and Clark Columbia River Water  
3 Trail Association, which worked to establish a designated route for kayakers, canoeists and other  
4 boaters touring the lower Columbia River; and

5       Whereas Tom McAllister served as a board member for the Oregon State Parks Foundation and  
6 the Oregon Wildlife Foundation and as chairman of the Izaak Walton League; and

7       Whereas Oregon Governor Tom McCall named Tom McAllister president of the committee that  
8 nominated Oregon rivers for protection under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968; and

9       Whereas Tom McAllister was a member of the Oregon Geographic Names Board for decades,  
10 including many years as president, leaving his mark on the state through his devoted efforts to en-  
11 sure that our place names reflect the authentic history of Oregon, including the history of Native  
12 Americans; and

13       Whereas Tom McAllister died on March 12, 2018; and

14       Whereas Tom McAllister's ashes were laid to rest on a small island in the Metolius River,  
15 alongside his wife Barbara, who preceded him in death in 2015, close to the site of a cabin Tom and  
16 Barbara built together as a young couple; and

17       Whereas Tom McAllister was more than a legendary writer about the natural world, he was an  
18 active adventurer and a committed conservationist, working tirelessly to preserve Oregon's natural  
19 treasures; and

20       Whereas everything Tom McAllister wrote, as one of the many tributes he received put it, was  
21 infused with "his tireless passion for the earth and the water and the air"; now, therefore,

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

23       That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, celebrate the life and accomplish-  
24 ments of Thomas Herbert McAllister Jr., and we recognize and honor his contributions to the people  
25 of this state; and be it further

26       Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be presented to the family of Tom McAllister as  
27 an expression of our sympathy and condolences.

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