



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 22-25

NAMING THE SALEM CAMPUS OF THE STATE HOSPITAL AFTER OREGON SENATE PRESIDENT PETER COURTNEY

WHEREAS, the Honorable Peter Courtney has served in the Oregon Legislative Assembly, both in the House of Representatives and the Senate, for 38 years, making him the longest-serving legislator in Oregon's history; and

WHEREAS, Peter Courtney has served a record 20 years as President of the Senate, after having also served as House Democratic Leader; and

WHEREAS, Peter Courtney previously served as a member of the Salem City Council, and has served on the boards of Salem Area Mass Transit, Salem YMCA, Salem United Way, and has coached basketball for the Salem Boys & Girls Club; and

WHEREAS, Peter Courtney has provided leadership on many issues vital to Oregon's government and way of life, including but not limited to seismic safety projects for schools and other public buildings, and the constitutional amendment that authorizes annual legislative sessions; and

WHEREAS, Peter Courtney has long been known as a champion for mental health services, leading the charge to increase funding for community mental health treatment, and winning passage of an increase in the cigarette tax which is dedicated to funding mental health treatment; and

WHEREAS, Peter Courtney continued his efforts to improve mental health care in Oregon in 2004, when he was among a group that discovered in Building 60 of the Oregon State Hospital the unclaimed cremated remains of nearly 3,500 Oregonians who had died while patients at the Oregon State Hospital and other state institutions; and

WHEREAS, Peter Courtney was instrumental in the effort to replace the original 1883 Oregon State Hospital with new and refurbished facilities in 2011, including a public memorial to those whose remains were found in Building 60, which became known as the "Room of Forgotten Souls"; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,250 of those cremated remains subsequently have been reunited with families and loved ones; and

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WHEREAS, Peter Courtney has been a talented leader, a valued colleague, and a steady presence in the Oregon State Capitol and in Oregon's state government for four decades; and

WHEREAS, Peter Courtney has been supported in a lifetime of extraordinary service to Oregon by his wife, Margie, his three sons, Peter, Sean, and Adam, his three daughters-in-law, and his five grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, it is entirely fitting to honor Peter Courtney for his extraordinary service to the State of Oregon;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

The Oregon Health Authority is directed to name the state hospital facility in Salem the Peter Courtney Salem Campus of the Oregon State Hospital.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 13th day of December, 2022.



Kate Brown
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Shemia Fagan
SECRETARY OF STATE