

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Honors Portland Timbers for their 2015 MLS Cup victory.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the Portland Timbers earned their first Major League Soccer (MLS) championship on December 6, 2015, capturing the 2015 MLS Cup trophy with a 2 to 1 victory over Columbus Crew SC; and

Whereas team owner Merritt Paulson, recognizing Portland's potential as an MLS powerhouse, has steered the development of both the Portland Timbers and their home stadium, Providence Park, to excellence; and

Whereas throughout the season the Portland Timbers were spurred to victory by the rousing cheers of the Timbers Army and the team's legion of supporters who have filled Providence Park to capacity for every regular-season and playoff match since the Portland Timbers' inaugural MLS season; and

Whereas led by head coach Caleb Porter, the Portland Timbers finished a winning season that landed them third in the Western Conference, a placement that earned them the right to advance to the MLS Cup Playoffs; and

Whereas the Portland Timbers progressed without a loss in their post-season playoff march to win the cup final, defeating Sporting Kansas City, Vancouver Whitecaps FC, FC Dallas and Columbus Crew SC; and

Whereas 27 seconds into the match Diego Valeri scored, breaking the record for the fastest goal in MLS Cup history and securing for himself the 2015 MLS Cup MVP award; and

1 Whereas Rodney Wallace headed in the team's final goal; and

2 Whereas although the victory log, used in the Portland Timbers' beloved
3 slab ceremony tradition, was not allowed in MAPFRE Stadium, team mascot
4 Timber Joey still trucked the log 2,400 miles to Columbus, Ohio, to saw off
5 slabs in spirit for the team's two goals; and

6 Whereas since their first game as an MLS team in 2011, the Portland
7 Timbers have caught the imagination of Oregonians, fixing Major League
8 Soccer firmly in the heart of Oregon's sports scene; now, therefore,

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

10 That we, the members of the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly, honor
11 the Portland Timbers for their victory in winning the 2015 MLS Cup.