

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 14**

Whereas the Elliott State Forest was established in 1930 as Oregon's first state forest and was named for Francis Elliott, Oregon's first state forester; and

Whereas the Elliott State Forest is located in Coos and Douglas Counties and includes nearly 100,000 acres; and

Whereas the Silver Creek Heritage Grove is an old-growth portion of approximately 50 acres of the Elliott State Forest that is composed of Douglas fir with a hemlock understory, and it is home to trees well over 200 years old and many varieties of flora and fauna; and

Whereas the Silver Creek Heritage Grove is typical of the forest that covered nearly all of the Coos River drainage until major harvesting began; and

Whereas the Silver Creek Heritage Grove has been maintained and managed for the enjoyment and education of visitors, and it is not included in any planned production from the Elliott State Forest; and

Whereas Jerry Phillips graduated from Oregon State College (now Oregon State University) in 1950, earning a degree in forestry; and

Whereas Jerry Phillips worked for the Linn County Fire Patrol Association before accepting a job with the State Forestry Department in 1952; and

Whereas in 1956 Jerry Phillips joined the newly formed management team for the Elliott State Forest, and he worked on the staff of that forest until 1989, beginning on its first inventory crew and ultimately becoming its manager for 19 years; and

Whereas even in retirement, Jerry Phillips continued to make the Elliott State Forest his life's

work, selflessly offering his expertise and volunteering his time in many capacities; and

Whereas Jerry Phillips's book, *Caulked Boots and Cheese Sandwiches*, was published in 1996, and it remains the foremost history of the Elliott State Forest, as well as a fond memoir of his experiences working in the forest; and

Whereas Jerry Phillips wrote, "It is the extremely unusual and blessed Forester who is so lucky as to have been present for the beginning of management on a so-called virgin forest, and to have gone on to work on that forest for the next thirty-four years" and "I was privileged to be in that situation"; and

Whereas the Elliott State Forest has had a great friend in Jerry Phillips, and his devoted stewardship has greatly enhanced this public resource for the people of this state; and

Whereas the peacefulness and pristine beauty of the Silver Creek Heritage Grove continue to attract many visitors each year; and

Whereas it would be a fitting tribute and an enduring legacy to rename the Silver Creek Heritage Grove in honor of Jerry Phillips; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, express our gratitude to Jerry Phillips for his many contributions to the Elliott State Forest and the State of Oregon; and be it further

Resolved, That the Silver Creek Heritage Grove in the Elliott State Forest is renamed the Jerry Phillips Reserve.

Filed in the office of Secretary of State May 21, 2019