

Senator Kim Thatcher
Senate District 13



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Resolution to Honor Joan Austin Passes Unanimously in the Oregon Senate

Salem, OR - The Oregon Senate unanimously passed a resolution today honoring the life and work of Joan Austin. SCR 10, sponsored by Senator Kim Thatcher (R-Keizer), honored Joan Austin for her legacy of community service and the contributions she and her family have made to the state of Oregon.

"Joan Austin was a pillar of our community, loved by family, friends, and community members alike," said Senator Thatcher. "Her legacy of service and her professional and personal accomplishments are an inspiration to all Oregonians."

Joan and her husband, Ken Austin, founded A-dec Inc in 1964. Headquartered in Newberg, A-dec is the largest privately-owned manufacturer of dental equipment in the United States. Ken and Joan launched the Austin Entrepreneurship Program and Austin Family Business Program at Oregon State University, where the newly completed Austin Hall is named after them. Joan Austin Elementary in Newberg is also named in her honor.

Joan was a committed community and business leader whose philanthropy and small business advocacy will continue to positively impact the lives of Oregonians for generations.

Senator Thatcher was chief sponsor of the resolution along with Senator Brian Boquist (R-Dallas), Representative Mike Nearman (R-Dallas), Representative Bill Post (R-Keizer) and Representative Jim Weidner (R-Yamhill).