

Oregon State Board of Higher Education

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REPLACEMENT OF THE
PORTLAND VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL ON THE MARQUAM HILL SITE
PASSED BY THE OREGON STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
ON MARCH 25, 1977

WHEREAS, the Portland Veterans' Administration Hospital has served as a major regional facility for the health care of veterans from Oregon and nearby states since 1928; and

WHEREAS, this 527-bed facility cannot meet present standards for efficient, economical and safe operation; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans' Administration has announced its intention to replace this outmoded facility with a new hospital; and

WHEREAS, divergent views and conflicting pressures for alternative sites within the City of Portland and elsewhere have threatened to delay this capital program or 'jeopardize its present priority listing in the federal budget for fiscal year 1978; and

WHEREAS, in early 1977, upon the recommendation of the Veterans' Administration President Gerald Ford approved Marquam Hill as the replacement site; and

WHEREAS, the relationship between the Portland Veterans' Administration Hospital and the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center has been a mutually supportive one for the past 50 years, providing both high-quality health care for veterans and substantial support for medical education; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans' Administration Hospital provides the educational facilities and teaching patients for one-third to one-half of the students, interns and residents of the School of Medicine at the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center; and

WHEREAS, the federally-supported physician staff of the Veterans' Administration Hospital has full faculty appointments in the School of Medicine and contributes to the academic programs of the campus indistinguishably from their state-supported faculty colleagues; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the Veterans' Administration Hospital from the immediate environs of the Medical School would have deleterious effects on the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oregon State Board of Higher Education hereby endorses the Marquam Hill site for the replacement of the Portland Veterans' Administration Hospital in the continuing interest of excellence in both medical education and veteran health care in Oregon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to President Carter, the Director of the Veterans' Administration, and the members of Oregon's congressional delegation.