

Enrolled

House Concurrent Resolution 4

Sponsored by Representatives THATCHER, MERKLEY, Senators L GEORGE, COURTNEY; Representatives KRUMMEL, NELSON, Senator AVAKIAN (at the request of Oregon State Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Robert Newell House Museum, Friends of Historic Champoeg)

Whereas Oregon pioneer Robert “Doc” Newell, a mountain man, fur trapper and civic leader, brought the first wagon overland into the Willamette Valley in 1841; and

Whereas Robert Newell’s skills at rudimentary medicine earned him the nickname “Doc” by which he was known the rest of his life; and

Whereas Robert Newell was present at the historic vote on May 2, 1843, to vote “yes” at Champoeg for the provisional government, the birth of citizen government in Oregon; and

Whereas Robert Newell promoted Champoeg as the seat of government, offering four square blocks of his own land for the provisional capitol of Oregon; and

Whereas Robert Newell was a member of the committee of nine appointed after the vote on May 2, 1843, to write the first laws, the Organic Articles and Laws, for the new provisional Oregon government; and

Whereas Robert Newell was one of the members of the first House of Representatives for the provisional government when the amended Organic Laws were accepted on July 25, 1845, taking office on December 2, 1845; and

Whereas Robert Newell was one of the founding members of the first literary and debating club in the Oregon Territory, the Oregon Lyceum; and

Whereas Robert Newell served as one of the founding directors and was influential in publishing the first newspaper west of the Rocky Mountains, the *Oregon Spectator*; and

Whereas Robert Newell placed the first keel boats, the Ben Franklin and the Mogul, in the Willamette River above the falls at Oregon City in 1846; and

Whereas Robert Newell was the first Indian sub-agent appointed by the federal government for tribes south of the Columbia River; and

Whereas Robert Newell was re-elected to the House of Representatives in June of 1848, and in August 1848 Congress officially made Oregon a territory, led by Governor Joseph Lane; and

Whereas Robert Newell served as captain of a select group of Oregon scouts accepted into the service of the United States during the Yakima Indian Wars of 1855-1858; and

Whereas Robert Newell became the first grand master of the Champoeg Masonic Lodge No. 27 in 1859 and served in that capacity for three years; and

Whereas Robert Newell was re-elected as a representative to the Oregon Legislature in 1860; and

Whereas Robert Newell was appointed Indian agent to the Nez Perce tribe on July 22, 1868, and assisted the tribe in their meetings with federal officials for one year in his last official capacity before his death on November 14, 1869, at the age of 62; now, therefore,

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

That March 30, 2007, be declared Robert “Doc” Newell Day in Oregon on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of his birth.

Adopted by House April 2, 2007

Chief Clerk of House

Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate May 7, 2007

President of Senate