

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Be Adopted
Vote: 8 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Berger, Edwards C., Garrard, Gelser, Jenson, Nolan, Read, Roblan
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Jerry Watson, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 2/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Declares President Abraham Lincoln as Honorary Territorial Governor for February 12, 2009.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- President Zachary Taylor's offer of Oregon Territorial governorship to Abraham Lincoln in 1849
- Abraham Lincoln's involvement in the development of the Oregon Territory
- Recognition of Abraham Lincoln's contribution to state and nation
- Parallel resolutions introduced in other state legislative bodies

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment

BACKGROUND: In 1849 President Zachary Taylor offered Abraham Lincoln, the then future 16th President of the United States, the governorship of the Oregon Territory. Abraham Lincoln declined that honor. Proponents of HJR 8 assert that President Abraham Lincoln contributed to the development of Oregon by his support of the Homestead Act, the development of land-grant colleges, and the launching of the Transcontinental Railroad. Proponents further assert that it is appropriate to honor President Lincoln on the 200th anniversary of his birth (1809) by declaring him to be Honorary Territorial Governor for February 12, 2009. The Oregon Territory consisted of what are now the states of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Washington. Similar resolutions have been introduced in the legislative bodies of those states.