75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session MEASURE: SCR 1
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Rep. Boone

**House Committee on Human Services** 

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

 Action:
 Be Adopted

 Vote:
 7 - 0 - 2

Yeas: Boone, Cowan, Dembrow, Huffman, Maurer, Olson, Tomei

Nays: 0

**Exc.:** Freeman, VanOrman **Prepared By:** Keely West, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: In Memoriam, Phyllis Kaye Beck.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

Provisions of the measure

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Hepatitis C (HCV) is the most common chronic blood-borne viral infection in the United States. An estimated five million Americans are infected, including 26,000 Oregonians, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). An estimated one-half to two-thirds of individuals with HVC are undiagnosed. A representative of the Caring Ambassadors Program, Lauren Sandt, testified to the committee that HVC is preventable and once diagnosed is curable for most patients. Late diagnosis of the disease results in high medical costs and limitations on the efficacy of treatment.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 1 expresses appreciation for the legacy of commitment and devotion of Eugene resident Phyllis Kaye Beck. Beck was a nationally recognized advocate on behalf of those whose lives were affected by HCV. She was the founder of the Oregon grassroots organization The Hepatitis C Awareness Project and The National Hepatitis C Prison Coalition which brought together organizations and individuals interested in raising awareness and providing support to prisoners with HCV and HCV/HIV co-infections. She also organized, founded and worked with many other national coalitions.