## 75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources

**MEASURE: CARRIER:** 

SCR 9	
Sen. Johnson	

FISCAL: No fiscal impact			
Action:		Be Adopted	
Vote:		5 - 0 - 0	
	Yeas:	Atkinson, Boquist, Hass, Prozanski, Dingfelder	
	Nays:	0	
	Exc.:	0	
Prepared By:		Beth Herzog, Administrator	
Meeting Dates:		3/26	

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Honors David Lett's vision, dedication, and decades of effort that he put into laying the foundation for the Oregon wine industry. Extends condolences to the family of David Lett.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Contribution to Oregon's wine industry
- Commitment to strengthening protection for agriculture land in Oregon

## EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: David Lett moved to Oregon over 40 years ago with a vision of making Oregon a preeminent wine production region. David and his wife Diana spent the first year of their marriage planting and tending to the first five acres of their vineyard in Dundee, Oregon. They named their endeavor the Eyrie Vineyards in honor of the red tailed hawks who nested on their property. In 1970, they produced their first vintage, including Willamette Valley's first pinot noir and America's first pinot gris. David Lett was responsible for bringing the first international recognition to Oregon as a new world home for pinot noir. He was also one of the winemakers responsible for founding the annual three-day International Pinot Noir Celebration. In 2008, David Lett formally retired and passed on the Eyrie torch to his son, Jason. David Lett passed away at the age 69 at his home in Dundee surrounded by his wife and two sons.