

# House Joint Resolution 52

Sponsored by Representative THATCHER

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Urges Oregonians to help preserve Oregon's history and history of circuit riders.

## JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas the Legislative Assembly believes it is important that Oregonians remember and sustain Oregon's heritage by preserving records of Oregon's history; and

Whereas itinerant preachers known as circuit riders traveled on horseback around the Oregon Territory and played an important role in Oregon's early history; and

Whereas circuit rider Jason Lee came to the Oregon Territory in 1834 to establish a mission for Native Americans, eventually settling near the present site of downtown Salem; and

Whereas the mission's school was built in 1841 and was transformed into the Oregon Institute in 1844; and

Whereas Jason Lee and other circuit riders were instrumental in forming the Oregon Territory's provisional government, which was sworn into office on July 5, 1843; and

Whereas the original Oregon Institute building was constructed on what is now the campus of Willamette University and housed the first session of the legislature to meet in Salem and the first United States court in the Oregon Territory; and

Whereas Oregon became the 33rd state in the Union in 1859, more than 20 years after Jason Lee traveled to Washington, D.C., to petition for statehood; and

Whereas an equestrian statue was unveiled in 1924 on the east lawn of the State Capitol in honor of circuit rider Robert Booth and to commemorate the achievements of all the circuit riders; and

Whereas the history of the circuit riders has not been adequately recorded and is in danger of being lost; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly, encourage all Oregonians to participate in the efforts of groups that are working to preserve Oregon's history, particularly the history of the circuit riders.

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.