76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Rules

REVENUE: No revenue impact **FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

 Action:
 Be Adopted

 Vote:
 8 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Barnhart, Berger, Freeman, Garrett, Holvey, Wingard, Hunt, Olson

MEASURE: HCR 3

CARRIER: Rep. Greenlick

Nays: - **Exc.:** -

Prepared By: Jim Stembridge, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/18, 3/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Designates Jory soil as official state soil.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Jory soil selected to represent Oregon in Smithsonian traveling exhibit
- Soil of characteristic red hills due to iron content
- Factors that make Jory soil characteristic of Oregon, including 300,000 acres, many crops, history
- Use of taxpayer resources on this sort of resolution
- Carlton silt as a competitor for honor of "official state soil"

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: According to the United States Department of Agriculture, Jory soils (there are several closely-related varieties) have been mapped on more than 300,000 acres in western Oregon, primarily in the foothills surrounding the Willamette Valley. They are named after Jory Hill in Marion County, seven miles south of Oregon's Capitol. Jory soils are very productive forest soils, generally dominated by Douglas fir and Oregon white oak. Many areas have been cleared for agricultural use. Jory soils and the climate of the Willamette Valley are ideal for the commercial production of Christmas trees, berries, filberts, corn, wheat, grass seed, and grapes.

"Carlton" is a series of silt loam soils in the Willamette Valley.