## 77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2014 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY House Committee on Rules

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued	
Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	6 - 3 - 0
Yeas:	Barnhart, Berger, Harker, Hicks, Smith Warner, Hoyle
Nays:	Holvey, Jenson, Kennemer
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Erin Seiler, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/17, 2/18

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Oregon Historical Society (OHS) to raise funds and commission statue of Mark Odom Hatfield, to be placed in National Statuary Hall in United States Capitol. Directs OHS provide for return of Jason Lee statue to suitable location in Salem. Establishes National Statuary Hall Review Task Force to study and make recommendations to retain or replace Oregon's statues in National Statuary Hall Collection. Requires President of Senate and Speaker of House of Representatives to activate task force before task force members can be appointed or task force can take any action. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Legacy of Senator Mark Hatfield
- Reputation as statesman, who worked in collaborative and collegial manner
- Role of Senator Hatfield in Oregon's history
- Process for replacing statues in National Statuary Hall
- Significance of Jason Lee to Oregon's history
- Life of Jason Lee

## EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The National Statuary Hall Collection in the United States Capitol Building is comprised of statues donated by individual states to honor persons notable in their history. The entire collection now consists of 100 statues contributed by 50 states. Each statue is the gift of a state, not of an individual or group of citizens. Proceedings for the donation of a statue usually begin in the state legislature with the enactment of a resolution that names the citizen to be commemorated and cites his or her qualifications, specifies a committee or commission to represent the state in selecting the sculptor, and provides for a method of obtaining the necessary funds to give the resolution effect.

The Joint Committee on the Library of Congress oversees the collection, and under the committee's direction the Architect of the Capitol is responsible for the reception, placement, and care of the statues. A state may request the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress to approve the replacement of a statue the state has provided for display in Statuary Hall under two conditions: if the request has been approved by a resolution adopted by the legislature of the State and by the Governor of the state, and the statue to be replaced has been displayed in the Capitol of the United States for at least 10 years as of the time of the request.

In 1954, a statue of Jason Lee was given to the National Statuary Hall Collection by Oregon and is currently on display. House Bill 4071 would initiate the fundraising, design, and planning process for replacing the Jason Lee statue with a statue of Mark Odom Hatfield. The measure also provides a process for the selection of future Oregon statutes to be placed at National Statuary Hall.