

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Be Adopted
Vote:	8 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Barnhart, Berger, Harker, Holvey, Jenson, Kennemer, Smith Warner, Hoyle
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Hicks
Prepared By:	Erin Seiler, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Honors William “Bill” Johnson for being first American male to win gold medal at Olympic Games in Alpine event.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Life of Bill Johnson
- His dynamic personality and attitude
- Skiing career and accomplishments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: William Dean "Bill" Johnson is a former World Cup alpine ski racer raised in Brightwood, Oregon. He was the first American male to win an Olympic gold medal in alpine skiing, winning the downhill at the 1984 Winter Olympics in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. He was the first racer (of either gender) from outside the Alps to win an Olympic downhill. After his historic win at the Olympics, Bill Johnson went on to take two more World Cup downhill victories in Aspen and Whistler that season.

Mr. Johnson mounted an improbable comeback bid for the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, unfortunately the comeback ended abruptly on March 22, 2001, when Johnson crashed during a training run prior to the downhill race of the 2001 U.S. Alpine Championships, held at The Big Mountain near Whitefish, Montana. He sustained serious injury to the left side of his brain. Since 2010, he has lived in Gresham, Oregon under continuous care in a long-term facility.

House Concurrent Resolution 204 honors Bill Johnson’s historic Olympic achievements.