

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued
SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Oregon State Capitol Foundation to undertake fund-raising and commission of statues of Chief Joseph and Abigail Scott Duniway, to be placed in National Statuary Hall in United States Capitol.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE 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 2014 the Statuary Hall Study Commission (the Commission) was created by Executive Order #14-11 and charged with studying and recommending to the 2015 Legislature whether to replace one of Oregon's statues in the National Statuary Hall Collection of the United States Capitol, and, if a replacement is recommended, which Oregonian should be newly memorialized in the National Statuary Hall Collection. In its report to the Governor, the Commission recommended that the statues of both Dr. John McLoughlin and Jason Lee be brought home from National Statuary Hall to places of honor in Oregon. In turn, they would be replaced with statues memorializing Chief Joseph and Abigail Scott Duniway.

Senate Bill 942 memorializes the recommendations made by the Statuary Hall Study Commission.