

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: No fiscal impact
SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Honoring the musical legacy of James Gilbert "Jim" Pepper.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: James Gilbert “Jim” Pepper, the great Native American musician, passed from this life in his Parkrose home in 1992 after succumbing to lymphoma at the age of 50.

Though the Seventy-third Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon honored Jim Pepper in Senate Joint Resolution 31 (2005), additional information about Pepper’s life and achievements have since become known.

Pepper was born in Salem, Oregon, in 1941, and grew up in the Parkrose neighborhood of Portland. He was of Kaw ancestry through his father, Gilbert Pepper, and of Muscogee (Creek) ancestry through his mother, Floy Pepper. Pepper took his music to New York City, throughout Indian country and to Europe and Africa, bridging cultures and continents during his lifetime.

He was a founding member of the first jazz-rock fusion band in music history and musicians around the world continue to record their versions of Pepper’s compositions. He received many awards and recognition during his lifetime and posthumously, including the First Americans in the Arts Lifetime Musical Achievement Award in 1999 and induction into the Native American Music Awards Hall of Fame in 2000 and the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame in 2007.

House Concurrent Resolution 8-A honors the extraordinary accomplishments and musical legacy of Oregon native son Jim Pepper.