

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/06/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 04/06

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Barnhart, Gilliam, Hoyle, Kennemer, McLane, Nosse, Rayfield, Smith Warner, Wilson

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Designates April 14 of each year as Honorary Artists of Oregon Day.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of art education
- Origination of idea for measure
- Reduction of art classes in schools

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 3042 designates April 14 of each year as Honorary Artists of Oregon Day to celebrate art and artists, to promote art education in this state and to encourage engagement in artistic endeavors.

The measure asks that art education not be an elective in Oregon schools, but be considered a necessity, as it may assist in brain development through techniques that highlight hand-eye coordination, mixing colors, layering and sequencing. Though the fast-paced nature of modern life makes it difficult to take time to nurture creativity, express and explore emotions and engage in nonlinear thinking to create new ideas, Oregon should continue to support and fund art education and make such education an integral part of school.

A day to celebrate art and artists would give Oregonians the opportunity to explore personal expression, to be educated about art history, theory, technique and practice and to be exposed to living and working artists of this state and of the world.