

Enrolled

House Concurrent Resolution 7

Sponsored by Representative WHITSETT, Senator WINTERS; Representatives BOONE, DOHERTY, FAGAN, GOMBERG, HACK, HOYLE, KENY-GUYER, KOMP, KOTEK, LININGER, MCKEOWN, MCLAIN, MCLANE, NATHANSON, PARRISH, PILUSO, SMITH WARNER, SPRENGER, TAYLOR, VEGA PEDERSON, WILLIAMSON, Senators DEVLIN, GELSER, ROSENBAUM, STEINER HAYWARD, WHITSETT (Presession filed.)

Whereas Abigail Scott Duniway was the embodiment of a true pioneer, traveling the Oregon Trail and eventually becoming one of the leading voices in the nationwide struggle for woman suffrage; and

Whereas Abigail Scott Duniway was born Abigail Jane Scott in Illinois on October 22, 1834; and

Whereas Abigail Scott traveled to Oregon Territory with her family in 1852, settling in Lafayette; and

Whereas Abigail Scott married Benjamin Duniway in 1853 and together they had one daughter and five sons; and

Whereas Abigail Scott Duniway wrote 22 novels over the course of her life, including *Captain Gray's Company* in 1859, the first book commercially published in Oregon; and

Whereas the Duniway family lost their farm properties due to fire and Benjamin Duniway's financial difficulties, circumstances soon followed by an accident that left Benjamin Duniway unable to perform hard physical labor; and

Whereas following her husband's injury, Abigail Scott Duniway became the primary breadwinner for the family, opening a millinery shop, running a school and taking in boarders; and

Whereas the Duniway family moved to Portland in 1871, where Abigail Scott Duniway founded a newspaper, *The New Northwest*, in 1871, and served as editor and writer for the newspaper until it closed in 1887; and

Whereas Abigail Scott Duniway worked for women's rights as a lecturer, organizer, writer and editor, founded the Oregon State Woman Suffrage Association and the Oregon State Equal Suffrage Association, served as one of the five National Woman Suffrage Association vice-presidents-at-large and traveled throughout Oregon and the United States to advocate for woman suffrage; and

Whereas Abigail Scott Duniway advocated the use of persuasive words and nonconfrontational tactics to further the causes she espoused; and

Whereas in addition to the cause of woman suffrage, Abigail Scott Duniway promoted discourse regarding many other topics, including social injustices she observed; and

Whereas Abigail Scott Duniway died on October 11, 1915, after seeing women granted the vote in Oregon but before the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing the right to vote for all women in the United States; and

Whereas Abigail Scott Duniway's tireless work on behalf of woman suffrage has led many to honor her as the "Mother of Equal Suffrage"; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly, honor Abigail Scott Duniway for her pioneering work for woman suffrage and for her place in Oregon's history as one of its earliest and most influential leaders.

Adopted by House February 27, 2015

Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate May 7, 2015

Peter Courtney, President of Senate