

House Committee On Rules

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/24/16

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 02/24

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Barnhart, Gilliam, Hoyle, Huffman, Kennemer, Rayfield, Smith Warner, Williamson, Wilson

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Legislative Administrator to use National Statuary Hall Replacement Fund moneys to commission statues of Chief Joseph and Mark Odom Hatfield to be placed on display in National Statuary Hall in United States Capitol. Directs administrator to request Architect of Capitol to seek approval of Joint Committee on Library of Congress for replacement of statues of John McLoughlin and Jason Lee with Chief Joseph and Hatfield statues. Directs administrator to place McLoughlin and Lee statues in appropriate places of honor in State of Oregon. Establishes National Statuary Hall Replacement Fund. Requires gifts, grants and donations received to fund National Statuary Hall replacement project to be deposited in fund. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Legacy of Senator Mark Hatfield
- Reputation as statesman, who worked in collaborative and collegial manner
- Role of Senator Hatfield in Oregon's history
- Funds for replacement project will come from gifts and donations
- Significance of Chief Joseph to Oregon's history
- Military and combat service of Senator Hatfield

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No 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 Legislative Assembly 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 Mark Odom Hatfield.

House Bill 4004 provides for the commissioning, transportation and placement of two new statues at the National Statuary Hall.