

SCR 1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Cherie Stone, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Designates Kiger Mustang as official horse of Oregon.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

The Kiger Mustang is a distinct breed of wild horse specifically located in the Steens Mountain area of southeastern Oregon and known for helping to settle the western United States. The Kiger Mustang possesses many of the physical characteristics of the original Spanish Mustang, specifically, they have small, round bones, small feet and very little feather on their legs and fetlocks. The Kiger is generally a medium size horse with wide set eyes, distinct hooked ear tips and are predominantly dun in color. .

In the 1970s, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was charged with management of the Kiger Mustang population. Currently, Kiger Mustangs are preserved and protected on BLM maintained lands, known as the Kiger and Riddle Mountain Herd Management Areas. In order to preserve the breed and maintain the genetic diversity of the Kiger herds, the BLM continues to add high quality Spanish type wild horses to the herd. Further, the BLM monitors the genetic markers and assures genetic diversity through extensive research and testing, resulting in a breed of intelligent and athletic horses with highly-prized primitive markings.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 1 designates the Kiger Mustang as the official horse of Oregon.