

HCR 19 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Winters

Senate Committee On Rules

Action Date: 07/06/17
Action: Do adopt the A-Eng measure.
Vote: 5-0-0-0
Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Boquist, Burdick, Ferrioli, Roblan
Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Cherie Stone, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Designates Marionberry pie as official pie of Oregon.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Marion blackberry is a hybrid blackberry that is a cross between the Chehalem and Olallieberry. As a blackberry hybrid, the Marion blackberry is a vigorous grower that produces up to six tons of berries per acre. Oregon has been home to the Marion blackberry since 1956 when George F. Waldo introduced it as a product of Oregon State University's blackberry breeding program in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. Oregon is not only the birthplace of Marion blackberries, but also the inspiration for the berry's name, with Marion County being the location of the berries extensive tests.

Oregon is a primary grower of Marion blackberries globally, with 300 growers and 20 packers that produce 21 million pounds of Marion blackberries annually. Marion blackberries are ideally suited to grow in the Willamette Valley's climate of moist spring rains and summers that are warm during the day and cool at night. Salem in particular grows 90 percent of the world's Marion blackberries.

Five state legislatures have previously adopted a state pie: Florida lawmakers adopted Key lime pie, Illinois lawmakers chose Pumpkin pie, Texas designated Pecan pie, Indiana adopted the Sugar Cream pie, and in 1999, Vermont designated Apple pie as their state pie.

House Concurrent Resolution 19-A designates Marionberry pie as the official pie of Oregon.