

SCR 7 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Johnson

Senate Committee On Rules

Action Date: 02/25/19
Action: Be adopted.
Vote: 4-0-1-0
Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Burdick, Dembrow, Roblan
Exc: 1 - Baertschiger Jr
Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel
Meeting Dates: 2/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Recognizes April 14, 2019, as Sikh American community's celebration of Vaisakhi in Oregon.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Sikh communities across the world celebrating Vaisakhi
- The role of Astoria's Sikh community in India's independence
- Sikh families as an important part of the fabric of Oregon

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Vaisakhi is an ancient festival that annually, typically on April 14th, celebrates the creation of the Khalsa, a fellowship of devout Sikhs, by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699.

In several parts of northern India, especially the Punjab region, Vaisakhi is a long-established harvest festival to celebrate the agricultural year and pray for abundant "rabi" crops in the coming season. Vaisakhi is commemorated in Sikh communities all over the world, including in the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States, with an array of religious and cultural celebrations throughout the day such as parades, dancing, and singing.

The State of Oregon is grateful to the Sikh community for its ongoing contributions to the cultural fabric of our state. Senate Concurrent Resolution 7 recognizes April 14, 2019 as Sikh American community's celebration of Vaisakhi in Oregon.