House Concurrent Resolution 1

Sponsored by Representative OWENS (at the request of Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Board)  
(Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Designates onion as official state vegetable.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the State of Oregon has traditionally recognized a variety of official state emblems as tangible representations of the proud spirit and heritage of this state; and

Whereas Oregon has designated an official state fruit but has yet to designate an official state vegetable to recognize the key role vegetables have played in Oregon’s development; and

Whereas many other states have already designated a state vegetable because of its close connection to a state and importance to its history; and

Whereas onions have been cultivated for thousands of years and they were considered as valuable as gold or rare gems in the Middle Ages; and

Whereas onions are an outstanding and healthy food resource, packed with vitamins, nutrients and antioxidants; and

Whereas the medicinal properties of onions have been recognized since ancient times, when they were used to treat a wide variety of ailments and diseases; and

Whereas much of Oregon’s onion crop is composed of sweet onions that are famed and prized around the world for their uniquely delicious and mild flavor; and

Whereas onions were originally cultivated in eastern Oregon in the 19th century; and

Whereas eastern Oregon is the leading region in the nation for the production of onions, with nearly two billion pounds grown in eastern Oregon per year; and

Whereas the soil and climate of eastern Oregon are extremely well-suited to the production of onions; and

Whereas Malheur, Umatilla and Morrow Counties lead the way among Oregon counties in volume of production of onions; and

Whereas the United States is the world’s third largest producer of onions, and onions grown in Oregon form a large portion of the national total; and

Whereas onions are Oregon’s second largest crop in terms of value of production per year; and

Whereas onions play a massive role in Oregon’s vital agricultural sector; and

Whereas Oregon’s reputation as a national leader in agriculture is well-deserved, and the onion has contributed greatly to this proud legacy; and

Whereas embracing the excellent qualities of one vegetable does not diminish the importance of other vegetables; and

Whereas due to the deep connection the onion has with Oregon, it deserves the honor of being

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. 
New sections are in boldfaced type.

LC 1708
Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That the onion is the official vegetable of the State of Oregon.