

SCR 10 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Helfrich

House Committee On Rules

Action Date: 04/20/23

Action: Be Adopted.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Breese-Iverson, Fahey, Kropf, Nosse, Scharf, Valderrama, Wallan

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Memorializes John Michael “Mike” Garvey (1953-2022).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Honoring the life of Mike Garvey
- Mike Garvey's contributions to the City of Portland

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

John Michael “Mike” Garvey was born in Portland, Oregon, on November 9, 1953. He grew up in Portland and graduated from Wilson High School, and knew at an early age that law enforcement was his calling, and he wanted to serve the people of Portland and make his community a better place.

Mike Garvey was an Oregon State Police cadet as a teenager. His career with the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) began in 1977, when he started work as a radio dispatcher, and he fulfilled his childhood dream when he began working as a police officer on the streets of Portland in 1978.

Mike Garvey steadily rose through the ranks of the PPB, and he served in various leadership positions with increasing responsibility, ultimately attaining the rank of commander. As a commander, Mike Garvey led the PPB’s Central Precinct, supervising all uniformed officers on the west side of the Willamette River in Portland. He also served as Portland Mayor Frank Ivancie’s personal bodyguard.

Mike Garvey was renowned within the PPB for his personal bravery and toughness, and as a young officer he was shot and severely wounded in the line of duty, earning the Police Star for his conduct. He was a warrior who inspired his fellow officers in dangerous situations, but he was also an officer who cared deeply about his community and had a rare ability to bring calm to people in moments of crisis. He became a living legend in the PPB for his heroism and accomplishments, but also for his compassion and willingness to help the officers he served with and supervised. The officers of the PPB knew that Mike Garvey always had their backs. Mike Garvey was the PPB’s first openly gay male officer, and he faced that challenge by striving to be the best police officer and leader he could be.

Mike Garvey retired from the PPB in 2005, and he had a successful second career as a real estate broker, living in Washington, D.C., and Redwood City, California. He loved to play golf, travel, run half-marathons, and spend time with his life partner, Randy Gale. At the time of his death, Mike Garvey was president of the board of Japan and United States Investing for Survivors (JUSTIS), an organization that provides help and comfort to the families of law enforcement officers killed or injured in the line of duty. Mike Garvey lost his battle with cancer and passed away at home on August 8, 2022, surrounded by his loved ones.

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Senate Concurrent Resolution 10 memorializes the life of John Michael “Mike” Garvey as a civil rights pioneer who helped to create a culture of diversity and tolerance at the Portland Police Bureau and in the City of Portland. He was a dedicated police officer who served the people of the State of Oregon with honor and distinction during his trailblazing career.