

HCR 201 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure recognizes and honors the City of Dallas on the 150th anniversary of its founding and celebrates its significant contributions to the State of Oregon.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The settlement that became known as Dallas, Oregon, was first established by pioneers on the north side of Rickreall Creek in the 1840s. Originally known as Cynthian or Cynthiana, the town was renamed Dallas in 1852 as the result of a petition seeking to honor former Vice President of the United States George Mifflin Dallas.

Around 1855, Dallas was relocated to the south side of Rickreall Creek, where water was more plentiful, and in 1865, businesses in the Dallas area consisted of a saw and planing mill, a flour mill, a saddle tree maker, six or seven general stores, and the prosperous woolen mill in nearby Ellendale.

In 1874, Dallas was incorporated as the Town of Dallas, and its first form of government was established with a five-member board of trustees. At the time of its incorporation, the population was less than 600 residents, but it has since grown to nearly 18,000. Dallas' volunteer fire department was established in 1878 and has remained a critical part of the community ever since. In 1880, the narrow-gauge Oregonian Railway arrived and connected the area to surrounding cities.

In 1901, Dallas was incorporated as the City of Dallas and adopted a council form of government, with mayors serving two-year terms. Dallas is the county seat of Polk County and the 19th-oldest incorporated city in Oregon.

On Saturday, February 17, 2024, the City of Dallas begins a yearlong commemoration of Dallas' significant place in Oregon history by hosting a city-wide celebration featuring a parade, a birthday cake, and fun activities for all.