

SCR 8 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Memorializes Donald C. "Don" Carey (1925-2019).

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

Senate Vote: Ayes, 29; Excused, 1--Gorsek

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Donald C. "Don" Carey was born on February 17, 1925, in Gates, Oregon, to Al and Velma Carey. In 1943, he graduated from Gates High School, where he excelled in sports and served as student body president. Don Carey served his country with honor and distinction during World War II in the United States Army Air Forces. He graduated from Oregon State College in 1950 and began a lifelong career in education.

Don Carey married Helen Wilson in 1950, and together they raised three sons. He had an exemplary career as a teacher, counselor, and coach in Stayton, Oregon. He was one of the most successful high school basketball coaches in Oregon history, leading his teams at Stayton High School to an overall record of 486-166 and winning two state championships, finishing as state runner-up three times and winning 14 Capital Conference championships.

Don Carey was a gentleman on and off the basketball court, and he was renowned for his composure and civility on the sidelines, earning just two technical fouls in his coaching career. He was named Stayton First Citizen in 1977. The basketball court at Stayton High School was named Don Carey Court in 2003.

Don Carey also coached golf at Stayton High School, and his teams won nine state championships, finished as state runner-up three times, and won 20 Capital Conference championships. He earned state coach of the year honors for basketball three times and golf four times, and in 1993 he was named the national golf coach of the year.

All three of Don and Helen Carey's sons-Jon, Tom, and Steve-played basketball and golf on their father's teams at Stayton High School. He taught a variety of high school classes, but his favorite was one he developed and named "Conservation," which included virtually anything related to the outdoors and was so popular with students that enrollment had to be restricted. Don Carey always had a soft spot for students whose behavior or background put them at risk academically or socially, and as an educator and coach he strove to provide these students with a sense of belonging and accomplishment, which brought about dramatic and positive changes in the lives of many students. He had an open-door policy at lunchtime, and his office became an informal meeting place for students to eat and have discussions in a nonthreatening environment. He maintained lifelong relationships with many of the students he taught, coached, and mentored.

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One of Don Carey's passions was playing fastpitch softball, and he played on many successful amateur adult teams, winning a state championship and being named to the all-state team three times at three different positions (pitcher, catcher and first base). He was an avid and lifelong sportsman and is forever connected to the many family members and friends who were his hunting and fishing partners in his favorite places in Oregon and the western United States. Later in life he continued to pursue wildlife with a camera, and he revealed a true talent for photography, capturing the beauty of wildlife and its natural surroundings.

Don Carey passed away on March 9, 2019, and was preceded in death by his parents and four brothers. He was survived by his wife of 69 years, Helen, their three sons and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He will be forever remembered as a dedicated educator and coach who touched countless lives and made his community a better place.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 8 celebrates the life and accomplishments of Donald C. "Don" Carey.