

SCR 211 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure celebrates the life and accomplishments of Steve Druckenmiller, and recognizes and honors his contributions to the people of Oregon.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment corrects Steve Druckenmiller's years of service, from 44 years to 40 years.

BACKGROUND:

Steve Druckenmiller was born on February 20, 1950, in Hollywood, California. He moved with his family to the East Coast when he was young and earned a bachelor's degree in government and a law degree from Suffolk University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Steve Druckenmiller's first job in county elections was with the Linn County Clerk's Office, in 1983. He was first elected Linn County Clerk in 1986, and was the second longest-serving elected official in Linn County history, serving 37 years as clerk and 44 years total. His office doubled as a political museum, with election signs, newspaper clippings and hundreds of campaign buttons, and he gladly took anyone who had questions on a personal tour of his private office, explaining every detail of the vote-by-mail process.

Inspired and encouraged by his mentor, former County Clerk Del Riley, who pioneered vote-by-mail in Oregon, Steve Druckenmiller worked to refine the elections system and supported any measure that made registering to vote and voting easier to do, while still maintaining the integrity of elections. He was proud to have overseen 141 vote-by-mail elections and 28 poll elections during his career.

Steve Druckenmiller loved the people of Linn County, and to them, he was a dedicated public servant. To his fellow elected officials, department heads, and everyone who worked with him, he was a wise confidant, an intelligent and exacting man, and a mentor who kept a steady hand not only on the tiller of his office but on the operation and reputation of county government as a whole.

Steve Druckenmiller died on Sunday, September 24, 2023, after a six-month battle with cancer. He was a kind, loving and generous father who approached adversity with humor and courage. To his children and grandchildren, he was a dad and grandfather who, when he took off his sport coat and tie at the end of the work day, enjoyed singing, telling jokes and tossing a baseball around the backyard with them. To his grown children, he is best remembered as a dad who loved holidays, surprising people with special gifts, playing baseball, visiting Oregon's Enchanted Forest theme park and watching Marx Brothers comedies.

Steve Druckenmiller is survived by his daughter, Jenny Druckenmiller, her husband, Maren Peasley, and their children, Steven, Wyatt, Gideon and Noryne; his son, John Peter Altgeld Druckenmiller, and his wife, Simonne; and his sisters, Jackie Kingsley and Joanie Korman.