

Submitter: Jim Scheppke
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: SCR212

Chair Lieber, Vice Chair Knopp and members of the committee,

I write in strong support of SCR 212 honoring the life and accomplishments of Senator Cliff Trow.

As State Librarian of Oregon from 1991 to 2011 I can say that among the many distinguished legislators I had the honor of working with, none did more to advance library services in Oregon than did Senator Trow.

In 1992, Senator Trow, as Chair of the Senate Education Committee, led the landmark Joint Interim Committee on Education Work Group on Oregon Library Services. This resulted in the passage of legislation to allow greater cooperation between Oregon libraries, to establish what became the Ready to Read Grant Program enhancing public library service to preschool children, and to provide for better support of the State Library's vital information services to State agencies.

The legacy of this landmark legislation lives on today in the important work of the State Library. Today Oregon is known nationwide for having some of the most outstanding library public and academic libraries. Throughout his legislative career, Senator Trow was our champion, and his work lives on in the high quality of library services throughout our state.

Even after his retirement from the Legislature Senator Trow worked on behalf of his own hometown library, the Corvallis-Benton County Library, and he also served on the State Library Board of Trustees.

Senator Trow was a consummate gentleman with a sharp mind, but a quiet demeanor — a friend and colleague to all.

When the history of Oregon libraries in the late 20th century is written, the name of Senator Cliff Trow will be prominently recognized for all of his work on our behalf.

I urge your support for SCR 212 and greatly appreciate the recognition it will bestow on Senator Cliff Trow.

Sincerely,

Jim Scheppke

Salem