

HCR 10 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure celebrates the life and accomplishments of Roger Martin (1935-2023) and recognizes and honors his contributions to the people of Oregon.

Fiscal impact: No fiscal impact

Revenue impact: No revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Roger Martin was born in Portland, Oregon, on March 10, 1935, to Ray and Georgiana Martin. He spent his youth in Portland, graduating from Central Catholic High School, where he played on the state championship football team, in 1953. Roger received a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Oregon in 1957, and was a proud Duck and active alum for the rest of his life.

Roger served in the United States Army from 1957 to 1958 as a tank commander stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and joined the U.S. Army Reserve from 1958 to 1963, where he achieved the rank of captain.

Roger served as an Oregon State Representative for Clackamas County from 1967 to 1978, and during his 12 years of service to the Legislative Assembly, he rose to prominence on multiple occasions, first as Speaker Pro Tempore during the 1971 legislative session and then as House Minority Leader from 1975 to 1978.

Following his legislative service, Roger spent the rest of his life working as a notable lobbyist, working from 1979 until his passing in 2023 with such clients as the Oregon Transit Association, United Grocers, Hood River Distillers, Alaska Airlines, Union Pacific Railroad, the Oregon Golf Association, Oregon Amusement and Music Operators, Williams Companies, and the Oregon Catholic Conference. As a lobbyist, Roger advocated for clients on both sides of the aisle, successfully growing a nonpartisan firm that helped launch the careers of several movers and shakers in Oregon politics.

Roger served as the first executive director of the Oregon Transit Association in 1978, helping guide the creation of Portland's MAX light rail system, which in 2024 served more than 76,000 riders daily. In the 1980s Roger helped bring public transit statewide, convincing his former colleagues in the Legislative Assembly to agree to multiple penny taxes on cigarettes to fund transit services for every county in Oregon.

Roger was a proud lifelong Republican whose easy way with people not only earned him friends of all political persuasions, but also helped him get the job done when the going got tough. Friends and former colleagues remember Roger as a passionate mentor, an unwavering ally and a generous host whose themed dinner parties at his Salem rental brought much-needed levity to the often grueling work of the Legislative Assembly.

Roger's steadfast commitment to Oregon was borne out by a lifetime of local associations, from his post-military work for his family business, Martin Electric, to his membership in the Lake Oswego Rotary Club and his honorary membership in the Oregon State Penitentiary's Lifers' Unlimited Club, which he earned through his dedication to

HCR 10 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

prison reform in Oregon.

Oregon lost one of its favorite sons with the passing of Roger Martin on June 25, 2023. Roger was a loving husband and proud father and is survived by his wife of 43 years, Maggie Martin; three children, Chris Martin, David Martin and Kathy Martin Russick; four stepchildren, Chris Larsen, Shannon Larsen Duffy, Erik Larsen and Molly Larsen Pearson; and 17 grandchildren.