

## SCR 7 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Rules

---

**Prepared By:** Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/19

---

#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure honors the life and memory of Dr. Phillip David Creighton, who lived from 1945 to 2024.

Fiscal impact: No impact

Revenue impact: No impact

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-1 The amendment adds family members to the list of family by whom Phil Creighton is survived.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Dr. Phillip David Creighton was born on June 18, 1945, in Irwin, Pennsylvania. He attended the United States Air Force Academy before transferring to Tarkio College in Missouri, where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1966. He received his master's and doctorate degrees from Colorado State University in 1970 and 1974, respectively. After a teaching career at Towson State University in Maryland, he became provost and vice president of academic affairs at Salisbury State University in Maryland. From 1999 to 2003, he was president of Eastern Oregon University in La Grande, Oregon. He also served as president of Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon, from 2003 to 2009.

During his tenure at Pacific University, Phil oversaw a period of growth; six new buildings transformed the campus, and a new athletic complex opened in 2008. Financially, he turned the deficit he inherited into a surplus. And, in 2006, he was instrumental in the establishment of the Hillsboro Campus. In honor of his tenure, and to secure his legacy, the original building of that campus was dedicated as Creighton Hall in 2009.

Phil was fondly nicknamed "Dr. Phil" and was an immensely popular figure with students, colleagues, alumni and the wider Pacific community. On campus, he was known for his personable demeanor, and he had a knack for remembering the names and faces of just about anyone he encountered. In retirement, he continued to give back to Pacific University by serving as president emeritus, lending his experience to the university's continuing growth and quest for excellence.

Phil and his wife, Leigh, split time in retirement between their homes in Arizona and Colorado and, as avid birders, spent many happy hours together traveling around the western United States searching for species to check off on their "life list."

On September 16, 2024, Phil Creighton passed away at his home in Colorado, with his family by his side. He is survived by his beloved wife, Leigh, their daughter, Natalie, their son, David, his brother, Douglas, his sister, Sally, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Phil loved being an educator, and he taught and mentored generations of students, making an immeasurable impact on countless lives. He was renowned for his integrity, work ethic, dedication and vision, which combined to make him a special person and an extraordinary educator.

Phil Creighton will forever be remembered for his decades of dedicated service in higher education and the profound and lasting impact he had on his students, his community and the people of the State of Oregon.

---

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*