

HCR 12 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Owens, Rep. Scharf

House Committee On Rules

Action Date: 02/24/25

Action: Be Adopted.

Vote: 6-0-1-0

Yeas: 6 - Boshart Davis, Drazan, Elmer, Kropf, Pham H, Valderrama

Exc: 1 - Bowman

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure designates February 11, 2026, as Oregon Wheat Day.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History and significance of wheat growing in Oregon
- Research being funded and done to grow better wheat and reduce impacts
- The “Wheat Fleet” era and the Port of Portland

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In February 1926, recognizing the power of collaboration, more than 200 wheat growers, grain handlers, grain millers, and marketers gathered in Moro, Oregon, to share research and information about seed sourcing, marketing, and grain transportation. The result of that meeting was the Eastern Oregon Wheat League, established in 1926, the first wheat commodity organization in the United States. In 1948, the League changed its name to the Oregon Wheat Growers League.

Wheat is a crucial piece of Oregon’s diverse and productive agricultural sector; it is grown in all corners of Oregon, contributing to the health and economic well-being of the entire state. Wheat produced by Oregon farmers consistently remains one of the most valuable Oregon agricultural commodities.

Oregon wheat is widely respected in major markets around the world for its superior quality, and exports of Oregon wheat result in annual direct and indirect economic output of nearly \$1 billion. Oregon wheat is a significant component of the state’s international trade, and many nations send wheat trade delegations to Oregon on a regular basis, enhancing the state’s international stature.

Wheat is a whole grain that provides numerous health benefits and is an excellent source of fiber, vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants. Oregon wheat feeds the world through domestic consumption, local and international aid donations, and exports.

The Oregon Wheat Growers League will mark its 100th anniversary in 2026.