

HR 3-3
(LC 4195)
5/29/25 (DJ/mb/ps)

Requested by Representative NELSON

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
HOUSE RESOLUTION 3**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 2 through 30.

2 On page 2, delete lines 1 through 43 and insert:

3 “Whereas Oregon has a rich tradition of building, supporting and cele-
4 brating LGBTQ communities, and the Black drag community in Portland is
5 among the most vibrant and storied in the entire United States; and

6 “Whereas June is Pride Month, a time when many members of the LGBTQ
7 community honor the history and struggles that led to the advancements in
8 rights for LGBTQ people today; and

9 “Whereas Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved Black
10 people and is celebrated today as a national and state holiday; and

11 “Whereas Portland’s Black drag community is deeply rooted in an illus-
12 trious history of fantasy, and members of the community have significantly
13 contributed to the Black drag entertainment culture, fostering creativity and
14 inclusivity since as far back as 1958; and

15 “Whereas in 1969, Rochelle was crowned the first Black Rose Queen, Rose
16 Queen X, at the ‘Days of Wine and Roses’ Fall Ball; and

17 “Whereas in 1970, Portland’s Black drag community connected with the
18 blossoming concept of the Court with the formation of two parallel nonprofit
19 organizations, the Portland Forum and the Imperial Sovereign Rose Court
20 (ISRC); and

21 “Whereas prior to the election of the newly designated title of ‘Rose

1 Empress,' it was determined that, to ensure that nothing be taken away from
2 Portland's own unique experiences in drag history, all past 'Queens' would
3 be assigned their appropriate chronological numbers, in sequence to the
4 'Rose Empress' designation; and

5 "Whereas in 1971, Talani was crowned the Portland Forum's first Black
6 Rose Empress, Rose Empress XIII, and Lillian Carter was crowned Black
7 Princess I; and

8 "Whereas in 1973, Irvina, Lillian Carter, Leora and Desi presented a
9 grand, first-in-the-nation all-Black Queens entrance at the ISRC Coronation;
10 and

11 "Whereas in 1975, the United Ebony Kingdom (UEK) was formed, and
12 Irvina was crowned Queen I of the UEK that same year; and

13 "Whereas 1975 also ushered in a new era as the last Sovereign Rose
14 Empress gave her blessing to, and relinquished a portion of her territory to,
15 the newly formed Imperial Court of the Emerald Empire (ISCEE) in Eugene;
16 and

17 "Whereas in 1976, ISRC elevated its first Black Monarch by public
18 election, and upon his crowning, Rose Emperor II Harold became the first
19 Black Emperor in the International Court System; and

20 "Whereas on October 16, 1977, with deepest admiration for those
21 trailblazers that helped build up the Black drag community in Oregon, Rose
22 Empress XIX proclaimed 'That each Empress shall bear one number and one
23 number only, and the number from the year of their reign shall never be
24 altered from what we, the people, have established in the past'; and

25 "Whereas in 1977, LaWanda Jackson was crowned Rosebud 1977, a pio-
26 neering title that marked the beginning of her influential journey in drag
27 culture; and

28 "Whereas in 1978, territory would be adjusted again when ISRC granted
29 sovereignty to the Imperial Sovereign Court of the Willamette Empire
30 (ISCWE) in Salem; and

1 “Whereas in 1980, Misty Waters was crowned ISRC’s first Black Trans
2 Princess XI; and

3 “Whereas in 1983, Rosey Waters was crowned ISRC’s first Black Rose
4 Empress, Rose Empress XXVI; and

5 “Whereas in 1986, Lady Elaine Peacock was crowned ISRC’s Rose
6 Empress XXIX; and

7 “Whereas in 1988, Cicely was crowned ISRC’s Rose Empress XXXI; and

8 “Whereas also in 1988, the Portland Forum and ISRC merged, and the
9 organization operated from that point forward as a newly unified ISRC; and

10 “Whereas in 1993, Maria Peters Lake was crowned ISRC’s first Black
11 Female Rose Empress, Rose Empress XXXVI; and

12 “Whereas in 1997, Diva Simone Slaughter was crowned ISCEE’s first
13 Black Empress, Empress XXIV; and

14 “Whereas in 2000, Anastasia Dubois Rosebud was crowned Rosebud 2000,
15 marking a pivotal moment in her longstanding legacy in drag performance;
16 and

17 “Whereas in 2001, Poison Waters, who is renowned for her advocacy work
18 on behalf of BIPOC and LGBTQ communities in and around Portland, was
19 crowned ISRC’s Rose Empress XLIV; and

20 “Whereas in 2001, DiVyne Shawnte Duv earned the title of Rosebud 2001,
21 honoring her role as a trailblazer in drag and LGBTQ activism; and

22 “Whereas in 2002, Michel’le Campbell Starr was recognized for her sig-
23 nificant contributions to Portland’s drag community when she was named
24 Rosebud 2002; and

25 “Whereas in 2008, Krystal Lynn Benoit was crowned ISRC’s first Black
26 Trans Rose Empress, Rose Empress L; and

27 “Whereas in 2009, Karess Ann Slaughter was crowned ISCEE’s Empress
28 XXXVI; and

29 “Whereas in 2010, Sheniqua Volt was crowned Miss Gay Pride; and

30 “Whereas Isaiah Esquire’s reign as Mr. Gay Pride 2010 marked a signif-

1 icant milestone in the community’s celebration of diversity and LGBTQ vis-
2 ibility; and

3 “Whereas in 2011, Sativa Platinum was crowned Rosebud 2011; and

4 “Whereas in 2011, Kourtni Capree Duv was crowned Sweethearts of
5 Portland’s Miss Sweetheart XXIII, a title that exemplified her commitment
6 to the art of drag and community engagement and solidified her place in
7 Portland’s legendary LGBTQ entertainment scene; and

8 “Whereas in 2012, Isaiah Esquire was crowned the first Mr. Gay Oregon
9 United States, honoring his commitment to advocacy and representation; and

10 “Whereas in 2012, Kourtni Capree Duv earned the prestigious title of La
11 Femme Magnifique International, showcasing her outstanding artistry and
12 impact on a global scale; and

13 “Whereas in 2012, Sheniqua Volt earned the title of Miss Poder Latino,
14 cementing her influence at the intersection of the queer and Latino commu-
15 nities; and

16 “Whereas in 2012, Sheniqua Volt was also honored as Miss Larubia; and

17 “Whereas in 2014, Stefhannie Mercury DuPont Shade was crowned Miss
18 Gay Pride; and

19 “Whereas in 2014, Isaiah Esquire made history again as the first to be
20 crowned Mr. NW FIERCE; and

21 “Whereas in 2015, Kourtni Capree Duv was crowned Miss NW FIERCE,
22 solidifying her status as a boundary-breaking presence in the Northwest drag
23 scene; and

24 “Whereas in 2015, Kimber K. Shade was crowned Sweethearts of
25 Portland’s Miss Sweetheart XXVII; and

26 “Whereas in 2017, Flawless Shade was crowned Sweethearts of Portland’s
27 Miss Sweetheart XXIX; and

28 “Whereas in 2017, Aunjelle Volt was crowned Miss La Femme Magnifique
29 International, representing the Portland drag scene with excellence and
30 commitment to creativity; and

1 “Whereas in 2019, Flawless Shade was crowned Miss Gay Oregon XLVII;
2 and

3 “Whereas in 2019, Kiesha Monet Volt was named Miss La Femme
4 Magnifique International, establishing her as a key figure in Portland’s drag
5 and LGBTQ communities; and

6 “Whereas in 2020, Poison Waters began teaching a ‘Histories of Drag
7 Performance in Portland’ class at Portland Community College, with a
8 prominent segment dedicated to the history of Black drag in Oregon; and

9 “Whereas in 2020, Rogue Storm Safari was crowned Sweethearts of
10 Portland’s Miss Sweetheart XXXII; and

11 “Whereas Isaiah Esquire was recognized as one of the Top 50 Burlesque
12 Performers in the World in 2020, 2021 and 2022, further cementing his influ-
13 ence and artistry within the international burlesque and drag scenes; and

14 “Whereas Isaiah Esquire was honored with the Honorary Sweetheart
15 Award in 2021, recognizing his contributions to the LGBTQ community; and

16 “Whereas Isaiah Esquire was named a GLAPN Queer Hero in 2021, a
17 testament to his advocacy and leadership within the queer community; and

18 “Whereas in 2021, Coco Jem Holiday was crowned Sweethearts of
19 Portland’s Miss Sweetheart XXXIII, continuing to inspire others with her
20 talent and advocacy in the Portland drag community; and

21 “Whereas 2022 saw ISRC’s first all-Black reign, when Arcadian Campbell
22 Starr was crowned Rose Emperor XLV and T’Kara Campbell Starr was
23 crowned Rose Empress LXIII; and

24 “Whereas Isaiah Esquire received the Northwest Pioneer ‘Reigning a
25 Difference’ Award in 2022, highlighting his ongoing dedication to inclusivity
26 and positive change; and

27 “Whereas Isaiah Esquire was honored with the Drag Excellence Award
28 at the White Tusk Awards 2023; and

29 “Whereas in 2023, Flawless Shade was a finalist in ‘Painted with
30 Raven,’ demonstrating her artistic flair and innovation in the realm of drag

1 and performance; and

2 “Whereas Flawless Shade also holds the title of Miss Gay Pride of
3 Portland 2023-2024; and

4 “Whereas in 2023, Alexis Campbell Starr was crowned ISRC’s Rose
5 Empress LXIV; and

6 “Whereas in 2024, Devlin Lynn Phoénixx was crowned ISRC’s Rose
7 Empress LXV; and

8 “Whereas in 2024, Flawless Shade starred in the music video for Logic’s
9 ‘Fear,’ a love letter to Portland that showcased Flawless Shade’s dynamic
10 talent and impact on both the drag and larger entertainment industries; and

11 “Whereas in 2024, Isaiah Esquire was honored as Mx. International Pride
12 by the Imperial Sovereign Rose Court; and

13 “Whereas also in 2024, Rose Empress XLIV Poison Waters was named
14 Queen Mother II of All Oregon, a lifelong title which was vacated by Queen
15 Mother I of All Oregon Rose Empress XV Darcelle upon his death in 2023;
16 and

17 “Whereas Poison Waters is believed to be the first and only Black Queen
18 Mother of a state within the International Court System; and

19 “Whereas many of the founding title holders in Oregon remain actively
20 involved in the Court system as highly respected members of the ISRC Col-
21 lege of Monarchs; and

22 “Whereas there have been decades of all-Black productions for various
23 community charity organizations in Portland, including Peacock in the Park
24 (1987-2004), Peacock After Dark (2008-2013), Hot Chocolate (2010-present),
25 Race Talks: Uniting to Break the Chains of Racism presents the Annual
26 History of Black Drag in Portland (2022-2025) and Elite Blackspereince PDX
27 (2025); and

28 “Whereas several all-Black production companies that support Black drag
29 performances, events and media in Portland, including Demand Drag
30 (2020-present), Kourtnei Capree Duv Entertainment (2003-present), Coco’s

1 Drag Closet (2020-present), Safari Productions (2018-present), Rogue Apostles
2 (2022-present) and Melange Productions (2018-present) came together to
3 present Juneteenth Spirit Week 2025; and

4 “Whereas countless Black drag entertainers have made their mark in this
5 state, and while many have sadly passed away, Oregon has benefited tre-
6 mendously from the indelible contributions these pioneering performers have
7 made to the Black drag scene in this state and across the country; now,
8 therefore,”.

9
