

Submitter: Andrew Tweedie

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HR3

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for House Resolution 3, honoring the rich and vibrant history of Black drag in Oregon. This resolution, recognizing the invaluable contributions made by Black drag performers, is not only a celebration of a remarkable artistic legacy but also a vital affirmation of Oregon's diverse cultural fabric.

Black drag artists have played a foundational role in shaping the LGBTQ+ community and culture in Oregon. Their contributions—from the early crowning of Rochelle as the first Black Rose Queen in 1969, through the formation of groundbreaking organizations like the Imperial Sovereign Rose Court (ISRC), and to the remarkable achievements of trailblazers like Poison Waters—have been profound. These individuals and events laid the groundwork for the inclusivity, community advocacy, and creative brilliance that continue to define our state today.

Honoring this history not only validates the struggles and triumphs of those who courageously paved the way but also reaffirms Oregon's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The passage of this resolution sends a powerful message that our state values, respects, and celebrates the contributions of all its communities.

I urge the House of Representatives to adopt House Resolution 3, acknowledging Oregon's proud history of Black drag as an essential part of our collective story. Thank you for your leadership in recognizing these critical contributions.

Thank you,
Andrew Tweedie