

May 2, 2025

Senator Kayse Jama, Chair
Senate Committee on Rules
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE.
Salem, OR 97225

RE: HCR 33 in Memoriam – Frank Cutsforth

Chair Jama and Members of the Senate Committee on Rules:

I first met Frank more than 50 years ago. At that time, I worked for a vendor to Frank's family business, Cutsforth's Market. Each of us spent our careers in the grocery business and shared March 25th as birthdays. In addition, we shared interests in great breakfasts, watching our children grow into responsible adults, and a love of sport, specifically baseball. We both became fans of the game as children in the 1950's and revered the star players of the era. Frank was a man of great depth, and I enjoyed many a conversation with him about the many facets of life. He was deeply involved with his family, his faith, his community, and in his business. The family grocery store is one of only a very few prospering independent grocers in the state. I spoke on the phone with Frank just a few days before his passing. The conversation was short, but he closed in his weakening voice by thanking me for "your friendship."

As always, he was thinking of others.

In closing, one of our joint childhood heroes was Brooklyn Dodger great, Jackie Robinson. A quote from Robinson is etched on his grave marker; "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." To me this is a code that Frank led his meaningful, and important life by. A day rarely goes by that the thought of Frank doesn't cross my mind. I cannot think of a single person with whom I have had more respect.

Pat and Pam Smith
Gladstone, OR