

SCR 204 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure recognizes, honors, and celebrates the contributions and value of the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) on the 120th anniversary of its founding and encourages continued collaboration between the Legislative Assembly and its county partners.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 1906, Oregon county governments formed the State Association of County Judges and Commissioners to support and represent Oregon's counties in legislative matters. In 1936, it evolved into the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC), which is composed of the 36 Oregon counties and their elected commissioners, judges, and chairs. For 120 years, AOC has played a pivotal role in protecting and enhancing the ability of Oregon counties to provide essential public services and effectively address community needs and priorities through legislative advocacy, professional development, the promotion of best practices, and the fostering of collaboration among elected officials.

Oregon counties administer all local, state, and federal elections; maintain the property tax system; operate libraries; provide social safety net services; and administer local public and community mental health programs, workforce services, and county Veteran Services Offices. They also provide county public safety functions, support public infrastructure, and facilitate development to ensure community growth and preserve natural resources.