

The following resolution was accepted by the Oregon State Grange at its 2017 Convention in Florence, Oregon.

ED #8: Saving the Criterion School Campaign

Whereas: A founding principal of the Grange was educational opportunities for farmers and farm families; and

Whereas: The Grange Declaration of Purposes states in part that “We shall advance the cause of education by all just means within our power”; and

Whereas: Our state’s future well-being relies on a high -quality public education system that prepares all students for college, careers, citizenship and lifelong learning and strengthens the nation’s social and economic well-being; and

Whereas: The Criterion Schoolhouse was selected to be moved 200 miles from Maupin, Oregon to the Oregon State Fairgrounds during our nation’s bicentennial celebration in 1976, to pay tribute to Oregon public schools; and

Whereas: The Criterion Schoolhouse has been visited by thousands of fairgoers each year; and

Whereas: The roof of the Criterion Schoolhouse began to leak last summer causing damage to the ceiling and the floor; and

Whereas: The Criterion Schoolhouse is in need of lead paint removal/repainting both inside and out, the ADA ramp replaced, as well as the school bell refurbished; and

Whereas: The Oregon Retired Educators Association (OREA) has provided volunteers over the years to host visitors to the Criterion Schoolhouse; and

Whereas: The OREA has created the Save the Criterion Schoolhouse Campaign to raise money to not only repair this building but also to create a foundation to sustain and enhance this symbol of lifelong learning for the future.

Therefore be it Resolved: The Oregon State Grange endorses the efforts of the Oregon Retired Educators Association (OREA) to repair the Criterion Schoolhouse and sustain this building as a symbol of and tribute to Oregon public education.