

5-194



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OREGON STATE SENATE
SALEM, OREGON 97310
(503) 378-8173

JASON D. BOE
President

May 27, 1975

Honorable Hugh Carey
Governor of New York
State Capitol
Albany, N.Y. 12224

Honorable Warren Anderson
President Pro Tempore
New York Senate
State Capitol
Albany, N.Y. 12224

Gentlemen:

I protest the action of the New York State Senate in passing Senate Bill 194, which would make the beaver the state animal of New York.

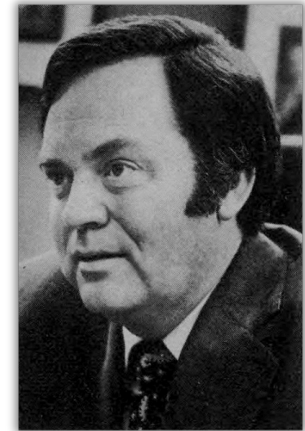
As you may already know, the beaver is the state animal of Oregon, indigenous to our rivers, and highly regarded, both as an animal and as a symbol, by the citizenry of the Beaver State.

The beaver symbolizes thrift, industry, and constructive endeavor. When Oregon was still a territory, the provisional government authorized currency on which a likeness of the beaver was stamped. This currency was known as "Beaver Money". The animal is currently the mascot of the Oregon State University athletic teams. The reverse side of the Oregon State flag also displays a golden beaver.

The beaver has played a predominant role in the history of Oregon. It was, in fact, one of the primary incentives to developing the Pacific Northwest. Trappers came to the Northwest in search of the highly valued beaver fur. Because of the ravages of these trappers, many of whom were no doubt originally New Yorkers, the beaver became almost extinct in Oregon. By proper management and protection, however, the once rare beaver has flourished in Oregon. The frequent sight of a wet beaver on one of our river banks still brings joy to many of our citizens.

Action: *CEP 272*
Info. Photo: _____
GOVERNOR ☒ _____
Baird ☒ _____
Burke ☒ _____
Goldan ☒ _____
Goldmark ☒ _____
Gribben ☒ _____
Laird ☒ _____
O'Donnell ☒ _____
Woodward ☒ _____
Billings

Honorable Stanley Steingut
Speaker of the Assembly
New York Assembly
State Capitol
Albany, N.Y. 12224



Is Mr. Boe for or against the Beaver becoming NYS's official animal?

Underline or highlight the text that helped you understand Mr. Boe's opinion about the Beaver becoming NYS's official animal.



Page two

Ever since an editorial appeared in one of Oregon's major newspapers announcing the intention of New York to adopt the beaver as the state animal, I have been pelted with letters from the citizens of Oregon who are raising their tails in protest. This damming reaction from the citizenry should cause you gnawing doubts as to the sagacity of such fur-fetched legislation.

New Yorkers have taken enough from Oregon. John Jacob Astor took enough of our beavers to make himself one of the richest men in America. New York State has taken from Portland, the City of Roses, the rose as its state flower. Must we also share our state animal?

Despite the fact that the official Oregon state anthem begins, "Land of the empire builders", we have not presumed to call Oregon the "Empire State". We only ask that you keep your hands off our beaver.

Sincerely yours,

Jason Boe
President
Oregon State Senate


JB:neb



Extras - For or Against?

Name: _____

S-194-B



BERNARD C. SMITH
2ND DISTRICT
CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION
AND RECREATION

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY
12224

GRIBETZ

Info. Photo:	
GOVERNOR	X
Burke	X
Golden	
Goldmark	
Gribetz	X
Kicinski	X
Laird	X
Lynch	
Morgado	X
O'Connell	
O'Donnell	X
BILL JKT	X
PALOMINO	X

July 8, 1975

JUL 10 1975

Honorable Hugh Carey
Governor of New York
State Capitol
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Carey:

This letter is to urge your reconsideration of the "Beaver Bill", S-194-B, and sign into law the beaver as our state animal symbol.

The announcement of this bill caused an unexpected flood of publicity and public interest. Beaver stories, details of the bill and related subjects appeared in papers and television not only in the state but across the country and into Canada. The idea appealed to the public. I personally participated in a number of radio programs on this subject on the Canadian Broadcasting System. I have had personal exchanges with members of Parliament all in good spirit. Canada formally adopted the Beaver this year.

It is my belief that a letter from the President of the Oregon State Senate, Senator Jason Boe, which I believe was written in jest (and which I answered in kind) may have been taken seriously by your staff and perhaps prompted your hesitation to sign this bill. You should know that I have had personal exchanges with former Governor Mc Call - all in good humor.

Historically, the first known New York State flag was a white field upon which was a beaver, and as I reminded Senator Boe this was in revolutionary days long before Oregon was settled.

Although very few states have adopted state animals most have state flowers and birds many in common. For example: Alabama, Kentucky, Nebraska and North Carolina adopted the goldenrod for their state flower. Washington, D.C., Iowa, New York and North Dakota adopted the rose. Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Virginia declared the cardinal as their state bird and Missouri, New York and Nevada share the bluebird. There are many other examples in addition to those just mentioned, of states sharing the same symbolic bird, animal or flower.



Mr. Bernard Smith
NYS Senator
Letter to New York State
Governor Hugh Carey

Is Mr. Smith for or against
the Beaver becoming NYS's
official animal?

Underline or highlight the text
that helped you understand
Mr. Smith's opinion about the
Beaver becoming NYS's official
animal.



Page 2

Honorable Hugh Carey

It is fitting that our great state be symbolized by this remarkable animal and I respectfully urge your approval of this bill.

Sincerely,

Bernard C. Smith

BERNARD C. SMITH

July 8, 1975

BCS:mjp

Name: _____

Extras - For or Against?



MR. BOE'S CLAIM



Mr. Boe
President
Oregon State Senate

SUPPORTING DETAILS

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MR. SMITH'S CLAIM



Mr. Smith
NYS Senator

SUPPORTING DETAILS

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Name: _____

Extras – For or Against?

MR. BOE'S CLAIM

The Beaver is the state symbol of Oregon and should not be the state symbol of New York.



Mr. Boe
President
Oregon State Senate

SUPPORTING DETAILS

When Oregon was still a territory, it had money with a beaver on it called Beaver Money.

The Beaver is the mascot of Oregon State University.

The back side of the Oregon state flag has a golden beaver on it.

Oregon was, in part, developed because trappers came in search of the beaver, almost making it go extinct (and some of the trappers were likely from NYS). Beavers are now thriving in Oregon.

The frequent site of a beaver on the river banks in Oregon brings the citizens joy.

MR. SMITH'S CLAIM

Governor Carey should reconsider the Beaver Bill and sign it into law making it the official animal symbol of New York State.



Mr. Smith
NYS Senator

SUPPORTING DETAILS

The bill was talked about on the radio and in the press. The ideas "appealed to the public".

Mr. Smith thinks that Mr. Boe's letter was written in jest (for fun).

The first flag of New York was a white field with a beaver on it. This was in Revolutionary days, long before Oregon was settled.

Many of our other symbols are shared with other states.