

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Be Adopted
Vote:	7 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Berger, Buckley, Esquivel, Hunt, Shields, Thatcher, Rosenbaum
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Marjorie Taylor, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges the United States Congress to enact and fund the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Support from Congresswoman Hooley for the troops
- Oregon's reintegration program for returning troops
- Number of National Guard who have been deployed
- Department of Defense and Congress working on a national reintegration program
- Funding of reintegration programs

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Over 4,000 soldiers from the Oregon National Guard have served overseas and 3,500 additional Oregon National Guard soldiers are scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan in 2009. Oregon has instituted a successful reintegration program for members of the Oregon National Guard that may be a model for other states to follow.

A bill was introduced in Congress to establish the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program, but it has not been acted upon. The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program would provide members of the National Guard and Reserves, and their families, with resources, services, referral and outreach opportunities throughout the deployment cycle.