

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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Action:	Be Adopted
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Kruse, Morrisette, Morse, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Bates
Prepared By:	Robert Shook, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/12

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Declares March 2009 as American Legion Month.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Update on programs serving young children and youth
- Size and scope of members, services, and programs serving veterans and their families

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The American Legion was founded in 1919 and chartered by Congress in September of 1919 as a patriotic, war-time organization, with a current membership of nearly three million members. The American Legion was responsible for securing the passage of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, also known as GI Bill of Rights that enabled millions of veterans to obtain education and home loans, and the Legion was instrumental in the passage of legislation that created the US Department of Veterans Affairs.

The American Legion operates a support network for families of active-duty military personnel and members of the National Guard and Reserves. More than 25,000 Legionnaires belong to 120 legion posts across Oregon. There are more than 10,000 members of the Sons of the American Legion, and the American Legion Auxiliary statewide who volunteer thousands of hours to assist veterans and their communities.

The American Legion serves our youth through programs such as America Legion Baseball, Junior Shooting Sports, Boys and Girls State, and Boys Nation. The Legion has also supported the Boy Scouts of America since 1919, and today it charters 2,800 Scouting units comprising more than 74,000 young men and women.

This resolution honors and recognizes the members of the American Legion by declaring March 2009 as American Legion Month.

3/13/2009 8:51:00 AM

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*