

Senate Bill 976

Sponsored by Senators COURTNEY, FERRIOLI, Representatives HANNA, ROBLAN; Senators ATKINSON, BATES, BEYER, BONAMICI, BOQUIST, BURDICK, DEVLIN, DINGFELDER, EDWARDS, GEORGE, GIROD, HASS, JOHNSON, KRUSE, MONNES ANDERSON, MONROE, MORSE, NELSON, OLSEN, PROZANSKI, ROSENBAUM, SHIELDS, STARR, TELFER, THOMSEN, VERGER, WHITSETT, WINTERS, Representatives BAILEY, BARKER, BARNHART, BENTZ, BERGER, BEYER, BOONE, BREWER, BUCKLEY, CAMERON, CANNON, CLEM, CONGER, COWAN, DEMBROW, ESQUIVEL, FREDERICK, FREEMAN, GARRARD, GARRETT, GELSER, GILLIAM, GREENLICK, HICKS, HOLVEY, HOYLE, HUFFMAN, HUNT, JENSON, JOHNSON, KENNEMER, KOTEK, KRIEGER, LINDSAY, MATTHEWS, MCLANE, OLSON, PARRISH, READ, RICHARDSON, SCHAUFLE, SHEEHAN, G SMITH, J SMITH, SPRENGER, THATCHER, THOMPSON, TOMEI, WAND, WEIDNER, WHISNANT, WINGARD, WITT (at the request of Oregon Association Chiefs of Police, Oregon State Sheriffs Association, Oregon District Attorneys Association, Oregon Council of Police Associations)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes Law Enforcement Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice and creates procedure for awarding medal to family of law enforcement officer who died while performing duties or was killed because of employment as law enforcement officer.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to a law enforcement medal of ultimate sacrifice; creating new provisions; and amending
3 ORS 176.260, 176.262 and 176.264.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Law Enforcement Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice is established. Upon**
6 **nomination by the Governor's Commission on the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor estab-**
7 **lished under ORS 176.262, the Governor or the Governor's designee may award the medal in**
8 **the name of the state to the family of a law enforcement officer who has died while per-**
9 **forming his or her duties as a law enforcement officer or who was killed because of his or**
10 **her employment as a law enforcement officer.**

11 **(2) The medal shall be bronze and consist of a police shield overlaid by a sheriff's star**
12 **with the seal of the State of Oregon in the center and the words "Law Enforcement Medal**
13 **of Ultimate Sacrifice" within the design. The medal shall be suspended from a ring that is**
14 **attached to a gold ribbon with a blue edge. The reverse side of the medal shall be inscribed**
15 **with the words "Awarded by a grateful state for the ultimate sacrifice by a law enforcement**
16 **family."**

17 **SECTION 2. ORS 176.260 is amended to read:**

18 176.260. (1) The Law Enforcement Medal of Honor is established. Upon nomination by the
19 Governor's Commission on the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor established [*in*] **under** ORS
20 176.262, the Governor **or the Governor's designee** may award the medal in the name of the state
21 to a law enforcement officer who has been distinguished by exceptionally honorable and meritorious
22 conduct. The medal may be awarded posthumously to a representative of the deceased law
23 enforcement officer.

24 (2) The medal shall be bronze and consist of a police shield overlaid by a sheriff's star with the

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 seal of the State of Oregon in the center and the words “Law Enforcement Medal of Honor” within
 2 the design. The medal shall be suspended from a ring that is attached to a navy blue ribbon with
 3 a gold edge [*or a green ribbon with a gold edge*]. The recipient of the medal may choose the color
 4 of the ribbon. The reverse side of the medal shall be inscribed with the words “For exceptionally
 5 honorable and meritorious conduct in performing services as a law enforcement officer.”

6 **SECTION 3.** ORS 176.262 is amended to read:

7 176.262. (1) The Governor’s Commission on the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor is established
 8 consisting of six members appointed by the Governor as follows:

9 (a) One member shall be a representative of the Governor’s office;

10 (b) One member shall be a representative of the Department of Public Safety Standards and
 11 Training;

12 (c) One member shall be a representative of the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police;

13 (d) One member shall be a representative of the Oregon State Sheriffs’ Association;

14 (e) One member shall be a representative of a statewide organization of police officers; and

15 (f) One member shall be a representative of a statewide organization of peace officers.

16 (2) The term of office of each member is four years, but a member serves at the pleasure of the
 17 Governor. Before the expiration of the term of a member, the Governor shall appoint a successor
 18 whose term begins on July 1 next following. A member is eligible for reappointment. If there is a
 19 vacancy for any cause, the Governor shall make an appointment to become immediately effective for
 20 the unexpired term.

21 (3) The commission shall:

22 (a) Adopt rules establishing qualifications for nomination as a recipient of the Law Enforcement
 23 Medal of Honor **and the Law Enforcement Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice**;

24 (b) Meet at least once every six months to consider candidates for nomination for the Law
 25 Enforcement Medal of Honor **and the Law Enforcement Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice**; and

26 (c) Nominate candidates for the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor **and the Law Enforcement**
 27 **Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice**.

28 (4) The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training shall provide staff for the commis-
 29 sion.

30 (5) The commission may seek and accept contributions of funds and assistance from any source
 31 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of ORS 176.260. All funds received by the commission
 32 under this subsection shall be paid into the State Treasury and deposited into the Law Enforcement
 33 Medal of Honor Account established in ORS 176.264.

34 (6) A member of the commission is not entitled to compensation nor to reimbursement for travel
 35 and other expenses incurred in the performance of duties as a member of the commission.

36 **SECTION 4.** ORS 176.264 is amended to read:

37 176.264. The Law Enforcement Medal of Honor Account is established separate and distinct from
 38 the General Fund. Interest earned by the account shall be credited to the account. The account
 39 consists of moneys deposited in the account under ORS 176.262. Moneys in the account are contin-
 40 uously appropriated to the Governor for the purpose of paying costs incurred in purchasing and
 41 awarding the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor under ORS 176.260 **and the Law Enforcement**
 42 **Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice under section 1 of this 2011 Act**.