

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/21, 3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Honors Lieutenant Commander Neil Swarhout for heroic acts as United States Navy pilot during World War II and Korean War.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Lt. Commander’s reserve and avoidance of praise
- Capacity for courage and unassuming character typical of “The Greatest Generation”
- Nation’s irreplaceable loss as they pass away over course of time

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Lt. Commander Swarhout moved to St. Helens, Oregon in 1928 at the age of six and later attended Oregon State College. He enlisted in the United States Navy in March 1942. During his service, he flew various aircraft in World War II and the Korean War, and was awarded five Air Medals and the Navy Cross for multiple acts of bravery. The Navy Cross in particular was bestowed after the Lt. Commander made a bombing run through intense anti-aircraft fire to score a direct hit on an attacking enemy vessel. When he returned from the Korean War, Lt. Commander Swarhout continued serving in the United States Navy Reserve until 1962 and officially retired on March 14, 1982. House Concurrent Resolution 4 recognizes his long and distinguished service.

House Committee Vote: 7 • 0 • 0

House Floor Vote: 60 • 0 • 0