

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/5, 5/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires display of National League of Families’ POW/MIA flag, along with Oregon and United States flags, on all newly-constructed public buildings and on all existing public buildings capable of displaying three flags simultaneously.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Veterans’ experiences
- Oregonians still missing
- Work of Joint Personnel Recovery Agency to bring missing servicemembers home

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The National League of Families’ POW/MIA flag symbolizes our nation’s concern and commitment to resolving, as far as possible, the fates of Americans still prisoner or unaccounted for in Southeast Asia. The location and days for display of the POW/MIA flag are currently governed by 36 USC § 902 and Oregon Revised Statute 187.220. Federal law specifies sites including the Capitol, the White House, each national war memorial and cemetery, and a number of other distinguished locations. State law requires the flag to be displayed by all public bodies. Both state and federal law specify display on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and Veterans Day.

House Bill 2892-A requires each state building and county courthouse with existing means to properly display three flags, to procure and display the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag year-round, along with the Oregon and United States flags. The measure also requires all newly-constructed public buildings to provide means to properly display all three flags.