

Enrolled

Senate Concurrent Resolution 6

Sponsored by Senator WINTERS

Whereas United States Army Specialist Nickolas S. “Noodle” Welch was born on March 16, 1987, to Lorria and Barry Welch; and

Whereas Specialist Nickolas Welch attended school in Mill City, Oregon, and graduated from Santiam High School in 2005, where he was a star wide receiver and received many academic and athletic awards; and

Whereas Specialist Nickolas Welch attended the College of the Siskiyou, where he was a Scholar Athlete and football player and received an associate degree in business management; and

Whereas Specialist Nickolas Welch was generous and loyal to his family and friends, loved his yellow lab, Apolo, and had a smile that could light up any room; and

Whereas Specialist Nickolas Welch’s wit, sense of humor and love of football were known by all who met him; and

Whereas Specialist Nickolas Welch was known by his friends as “The Legend” and “King of Savannah”; and

Whereas Specialist Nickolas Welch was studying to become an accountant before he joined the United States Army in August 2010 and was subsequently assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Georgia; and

Whereas on July 23, 2013, during his first tour of duty, Specialist Nickolas Welch was critically injured when a suicide bomber rode up to his unit on a donkey and detonated an improvised explosive device in Soltan Kheyl, Afghanistan; and

Whereas Specialist Nickolas Welch was transported to a hospital in Germany and then to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, where he died on August 6, 2013, of injuries sustained in the attack; and

Whereas Specialist Nickolas Welch’s bravery and sacrifice has been recognized through numerous awards, including the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, NATO Medal and Combat Action Badge; and

Whereas Specialist Nickolas Welch is survived by his parents, Barry and Lorria Welch, his brother, Zach Welch, his nephew, Liam Nickolas, many aunts and uncles and his best friend, his dog named Apolo; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor United States Army Specialist Nickolas S. Welch for his service to this state and to the nation.

Adopted by Senate May 12, 2015

Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Adopted by House June 9, 2015

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House