

Chair Boquist, Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to address you today. My name is Elaine Woods and I live in Beaverton.

I strongly support SB 992, which designates the third Friday in September of every year to be Oregon POW/MIA Recognition Day.

I thank you for bringing this bill forward for a hearing. Many Oregonians have served in the wars of this nation, and those who were captured by the enemy suffered terribly. Many of them died from the treatment they received. Those who survived and were able to return home have been forever changed by their experience.

The families of those who are still missing and unaccounted for continue to suffer, not knowing what happened to their loved ones and they have no closure. Their anguish and hardships continue in uncertainty.

The families of these POWs and MIAs deserve to know that their loved ones are not forgotten. And we as Oregonians need to be reminded of the sacrifices made for the sake of our freedom.

I urge your support and ask you to vote "Yes" for SB 992.