

March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017

To: Chair Boquist and Members of the Committee

Concerning SB993 Designating August 7<sup>th</sup> of each year as Oregon Purple Heart Recognition Day

As a member of Co. B, 2/8th Mechanized Infantry, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Republic of Vietnam in 1968/69 I received multiple Purple Heart Awards for my combat service.

I am a member of MORPH - The Military Order of the Purple Heart, DAV - Disabled American Veterans, NIVA – Northwest Indian Veterans Association, and The American Legion.

The Purple Heart is an award that you cannot be given. It can only be earned by receiving wounds caused directly by enemy action. It was my wife's Sandy Raddue's heartfelt wish that this Day of Recognition be granted and enacted by the people of the State of Oregon for Purple Heart Recipients and their families. These families of our Wounded Warriors have born these veterans wounds also.

I am very sorry that I could not be there myself in person to give this testimony due to health issues!

Sincerely,

Tyler Raddue

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