

SCR 13 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Cherie Stone, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Recognizes Jason Westlund for exemplary service in assisting accident victim.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

On August 2, 2016, Jason Westlund of Salem, Oregon, who served as a United States Army medic in Iraq, was the first person to arrive on the scene of a head-on vehicle collision on Highway 20. At the scene, Jason Westlund discovered Riley Russell pinned between the steering wheel, roof and front column of his truck. While Mr. Westlund was speaking with a trapped Mr. Russell in order to assess his condition, the vehicle caught fire with Mr. Russell inside, unable to escape. Mr. Westlund remained by Mr. Russell's side, seeking the help of bystanders, and was provided with a fire extinguisher to put out the flames coming from the truck's hood. Mr. Westlund was then able to communicate Mr. Russell's condition to emergency medical personnel. Riley Russell was evacuated from the scene by emergency medicals technicians and Jason Westlund was treated for shock and injuries sustained while aiding Mr. Russell. Although he required several surgeries after the incident, Riley Russell survived and credits Jason Westlund with saving his life. While visiting Riley Russell in the hospital, Jason Westlund presented Mr. Russell with his flight patch from his tour in Iraq.

SCR 13 recognizes Jason Westlund for his exemplary service to his nation, state and community, and thanks Mr. Westlund for the example for citizenship he has set for all Oregonians. Lastly, SCR 13 extends the Legislative Assembly's best wishes to Riley Russell for his continued recovery.