

April 3rd, 2017

To: Chair Boquist and Members of the Committee

Concerning SB991 Relating to Oregon Wounded Warrior Parking Permits. I strongly support the passing of this bill SB991, I however disagree with the proposed Amendments as shown in SB796.

My wife Sandy Raddue and I are extremely familiar with the true meaning of the term Wounded Warrior. At Christmas time in our home we have a second small Christmas tree decorated only in Red, White, and Blue with the exception of 6 small Purple Hearts. Two were earned by her mother an Army Nurse when she was in a field hospital attached to Patton in WW2. Four were earned by myself while in Vietnam.

The term Wounded Warrior means wounded by enemy action. For this you earn the Purple Heart. This award can only be earned by any military personal injured by enemy action. An individual not wounded by enemy action, or suffering from the results of a previous non military duty related re injury does not receive such an award. There is a great distinction between the two. Sandy and I have one son that was injured while in Afghanistan on his second deployment. He is 50% disabled, but he is not a Wounded Warrior.

For the Oregon State DMV to make this distinction is very easy. Upon separation from the military you receive a Form DD214. This form calls out awards earned and granted to the individual. Also if the person applying has either a VA Card or the letter showing their Disabled Percentage Rating of 50% or more it will also state Service Connected or Service Connected Disabled.

I am making this clarification so that the term Wounded Warrior is being used properly in this case. I hope that this is helpful so that this may be enacted by the People of the great State of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Tyler Raddue

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