

SCR 19 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: C. Ross, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/6, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Placeholder to memorialize fallen service members.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

[-1 amendment] Recognizes and honors the Evans family of Klamath Falls, Oregon, particularly two brothers, Specialist Six Norman Francis Evans (1947 - 1970) and Specialist Four David Lynn Evans (1948 - 1968).

[-3 amendment] Recognizes and honors Corporal Jeremy M. Loveless (1980 - 2006).

[pending amendment] Recognizes and honors Lance Corporal Ty L. Hart (1995 - 2016).

BACKGROUND:

Four generations of the Evans family of Klamath Falls, Oregon have served in the Armed Forces. James Earl Evans (1926-1983) was a United States Air Force veteran who served in World War II and the Korean War. His sons, Specialist Six Norman Evans and his younger brother, Specialist Four David Evans of Klamath Falls, Oregon, were born about two years apart: March 6, 1947 and December 21, 1948, respectively. They were both soldiers in the United States Army. Norman was assigned to 156th Aviation Company Army Security Agency (ASA), 224th ASA Aviation Battalion, 509th ASA Group, Vietnam (USARV); and David was assigned to 117th Assault Helicopter Company, 214th Combat Aviation Battalion, 127th Aviation Group, 1st Aviation Brigade, USARV. Norman was a 33G20 ECM/DF Systems Repairman and David was a 35K20 Avionics Mechanic. The brothers also perished about two years apart: the younger, David was killed in a helicopter crash during hostile engagement in Long An Province, South Vietnam, on October 24, 1968, at the age of 19; and Norman died in a fixed-wing aircraft accident in Phong Dinh Province, South Vietnam, on November 24, 1970, at the age of 23. Norman's son, also named David (1969 - 2011), was also a soldier in the United States Army National Guard who served in the Iraq War. The Evans family of Klamath Falls is one of only 39 families nationwide, and four families in Oregon, to lose two sons in the Vietnam War.

Jeremy Loveless was born on June 27, 1980, in Albany, Oregon and raised in Gresham. He graduated from Gresham High School in 1998, married his wife in 2000 and they had a daughter in 2002. He volunteered for the Estacada Fire Department and aspired to become a firefighter and paramedic. He enlisted the United States Army in 2004 and served as a combat medic assigned to 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, based at Fort Wainwright in Alaska. He deployed to Iraq in 2005 and was killed on Memorial Day, May 29, 2006, shot by enemy small arms fire during combat operations in Mosul while riding outside his Stryker vehicle in a dangerous position that he often volunteered to take. Corporal Loveless was know as a warm and genuine man; an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed bicycling, backpacking and rock climbing; and he cared deeply about helping others, in particular, protecting the lives of his fellow soldiers. The street on which Estacada's main fire station is located was renamed in his honor.