

HCR 27 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: Bradley Volk, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Recognizes and honors Corporal Jessica A. Ellis (1983-2008) for her service to her country.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Corporal Jessica A. Ellis was born in Burley, Idaho on June 28, 1983, to Steve and Linda Ellis. Because her father's career required the family to move frequently, Corporal Ellis and her brother Cameron and sister Amanda lived in various parts of the country while growing up. In 1997, she moved with her family to Lake Oswego, Oregon. In 2002, she graduated from Lake Oswego High School where she competed in cross country, swimming and track. She later earned an associate of arts degree from Central Oregon Community College in Bend, Oregon. She spent her college summers as a United States Forest Service firefighter on the Fremont-Winema National Forest in southern Oregon. She enjoyed running, fishing and spending time with her family and their animals. She joined the United States Army in September 2004 and was assigned to the 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), based out of Fort Campbell in Kentucky, and was twice deployed as a combat medic in Iraq. She earned the Combat Medic Badge during her first tour in Iraq for treating a wounded soldier under direct enemy fire. Her courage, competence, friendliness and dependability earned her the nickname "Doc Ellis" from her fellow soldiers. During her second tour in Iraq, three weeks after surviving a roadside blast that severely damaged her armored vehicle, known as a Buffalo, she volunteered to take another medic's place on a road-clearing convoy and was killed in Baghdad, Iraq, on May 11, 2008, when the Buffalo in which she was riding made contact with an improvised explosive device (IED). She will be remembered for her dedication to and deep concern for her fellow soldiers. She was previously awarded posthumously the Purple Heart and Bronze Star and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. She is survived by her parents and brother and sister.

House Concurrent Resolution 27 honors and recognizes Corporal Jessica A. Ellis, and the Ellis family, for their sacrifice during the Iraq War (2003-2011).