

HCR 9 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: C. Ross, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Recognizes and honors Technician Fifth Grade Robert Dale Maxwell for his long and faithful service to his country.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

Technician Fifth Grade Robert Dale Maxwell was born on October 26, 1920, in Boise, Idaho, and raised by his grandparents in the Quaker faith. He was drafted in World War II, declined conscientious objector status, and became an infantryman in the United States Army's famed 3rd Infantry Division. During his service, he saved the lives of three fellow soldiers by throwing himself on to a hand grenade to shield them from the blast.

He was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for exemplary heroism above and beyond the call of duty, two Silver stars, two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star, numerous campaign medals, and two of France's highest honors, the Croix de Guerre and the Legion d'honneur. After the war, he used the G.I. Bill to become certified in automotive technology, and taught for more than 30 years at Bend Senior High School, Central Oregon Community College, and Lane Community College. He was also instrumental in creating numerous veterans memorials in Oregon including the World War II Veterans Historic Highway and the Oregon Medal of Honor Exhibit. He celebrated his 96th birthday at his residence in Bend, Oregon, on October 26, 2016, and is our nation's oldest living Medal of Honor recipient.

Friends of Technician Fifth Grade Robert D. Maxwell know him as a true American patriot and an ardent promoter of education and American history who has been able to connect the veterans community in Oregon with others across the country. House Concurrent Resolution 9 honors him for his long and faithful service to his country.