

HCR 10 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: C. Ross, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Commends the Bend Heroes Foundation for its work recognizing Oregon's veterans.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

The Bend Heroes Foundation (the Foundation) was established in 2010 to honor and assist veterans and first responders. To date, it has sought recognition for 550 World War II veterans; requested legislation to designate six border-to-border veterans memorial highways; worked to have 67 memorial road signs installed; created the Oregon Medal of Honor Exhibit, the Bend Heroes Memorial and the Bend Parade of Flags; instituted the Purple Heart City, the Gold Star Mother's, and the Family's Day projects in Bend; connected World War II veterans with students at Bend Senior High School and Summit High School during Veteran's Day assemblies; initiated Bend's participation in the national Wreaths Across America program; and raised over \$800,000 from donors across Oregon to complete 30 veterans' projects. The Foundation's work on memorial highway designations, in particular, has honored hundreds of thousands of veterans over five major wars in the last 100 years. Thanks to the Foundation's efforts, Oregon has the first Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq Veterans Memorial Highway, and Oregon completed The Purple Heart Trail, which extends through the United States from Mexico to Canada.

The Foundation has received national, state and local recognition for its veteran projects and patriotism. House Concurrent Resolution 10 is added, commending the Bend Heroes Foundation for its work recognizing and honoring veterans.