

HB 2405 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 5/3, 5/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds tribal governments to list of governments and agencies eligible for funding assistance through State Parks and Recreation Department for cooperative efforts with nonprofit veterans' organizations to construct or restore memorials honoring veterans and war memorials located on public property.

No fiscal impact, no revenue impact

House Vote: Passed. Ayes, 58; Excused, 2--Boone, Clem

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Type of project that could receive funding
- Creates opportunity for tribes to compete for grants

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2015, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation applied for a State Parks and Recreation grant with authorized matching funds from the Umatilla Board of Trustees to make improvements to the Nixyaawii Warrior Memorial, built by the Umatilla Tribes in 1996. The Umatilla Tribes identified the following goals for grant funds: to increase accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act; restore weathered plaques and walls; improve security lighting; update electrical systems; install security cameras; and install fencing around safety hazards.

The State Parks and Recreation Department determined that only regional or local governments or other state agencies are eligible for veteran and war memorial grant funds.

House Bill 2405 would add tribal governments to the list of eligible grantees under the State Parks and Recreation Department's program to construct and restore memorials honoring veterans and war memorials located on public property.