

HCR 27 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: C. Ross, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Corporal Ellis was born in Burley, Idaho, on June 28, 1983, and moved to Lakeview, Oregon, with her family in 1997. She graduated from high school there in 2002, and later earned an Associate's Degree from Central Oregon Community College in Bend. She spent summers fighting fires for the U.S. Forest Service in the Fremont-Winema National Forest in southern Oregon. She was an athlete who enjoyed the outdoors and spending time with her family and animals. In 2004, she joined the Army and was a combat medic assigned to the 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), based out of Fort Campbell in Kentucky. She earned the Combat Medic Badge during her first tour in Iraq for treating a wounded soldier under direct enemy fire. She was killed on her second tour in Baghdad, Iraq, on May 11, 2008, three weeks after surviving a roadside blast that severely damaged her armored vehicle. She volunteered to take another medic's place on a road-clearing convoy and her vehicle came into contact with an improvised explosive device. She is remembered for her courage, competence, friendliness, and deep concern and dedication to her fellow soldiers, who called her "Doc Ellis." She received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star posthumously and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

House Concurrent Resolution 27 honors Corporal Jessica A. Ellis.