

HCR 12 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Honors and commends Oregon State Police Fallen Trooper Memorial dedication ceremony held October 1, 2016.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

The idea for a memorial to honor fallen troopers originated with Tim McLain, Oregon State Police Superintendent from 2007 to 2010. This idea developed into the Oregon State Police Fallen Trooper Memorial over the course of six years of planning, fundraising and construction. Approximately \$300,000 was raised through the Fallen Trooper Memorial Foundation. The memorial honors the 33 Oregon State troopers who have died in the line of duty. The memorial was designed by Gene Bolante of Salem and realized by Portland sculptor Jason Jones and White Oak Construction of Salem.

A formal dedication ceremony for the memorial was held on October 1, 2016. Families of the fallen, troopers and other public safety personnel, citizens and public officials attended the ceremony. Oregon State Police Superintendent Travis Hampton, Senator Betsy Johnson and Governor Kate Brown were among those present. Speaking on behalf of the families of the fallen was Bill and Barb Lyons, whose son, Scott Lyons, died in the line of duty on September 2, 1997.

The memorial is located on the Capitol Mall at the former headquarters of the Oregon State Police. The memorial is formed of eight basalt stones that were quarried in Madras, Oregon. Plaques bear the name and End of Watch date of each of the 33 Oregon State Police troopers who died in the line of duty. A map of Oregon bears a star for the location where each trooper was killed. In the memorial's center is a column of white granite that has been left jagged and unfinished at the top, symbolizing the troopers whose lives were untimely taken and whose jobs can never be finished. The epitaph reads, "They shall neither shun responsibility nor shrink from duty in the face of danger."