

## **HCR 7 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness**

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**Prepared By:** Bradley Volk, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/9

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Recognized and honors Oregon National Guard Sergeant David M. Johnson-DeFord (1967-2004) for service to his country.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Sergeant Johnson-Deford was born in January 1967 in Portland, Oregon to Michelle DeFord and Rick Johnson. He grew up in Colton, Oregon, and graduated from Colton High School in 1985.

Sergeant Johnson-DeFord joined the United States Army from 1987 to 1991 before returning to civilian life. Sergeant Johnson-DeFord pursued his passion for motorcycles by becoming an amateur racer.

After the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Sergeant Johnson-DeFord enlisted in the Oregon National Guard. He trained as a cook, but retrained as a gunner and served in Iraq with the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment. He was killed in action on September 24, 2004, when an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated near his Humvee, the last of a 14-vehicle supply convoy, on a road northwest of Baghdad.

At the funeral for Sergeant Johnson DeFord, former Governor Ted Kulongoski stated that the sergeant, "personified the spirit of the state."

House Concurrent Resolution 7 honors Sergeant Johnson, and his family, for their sacrifice during the war in Iraq.