

HCR 10 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

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Meeting Dates: 2/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

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

FISCAL: No Expenditure Impact

REVENUE: No Revenue Impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

The Bend Heroes Foundation (the Foundation) opened its doors in 2010 with a mission to honor veterans and first responders. To date, it has honored 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 Start 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.