

HCR 27 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Carrier: Rep. Reschke

Action Date: 04/13/17
Action: Be Adopted.
Vote: 7-0-1-0
Yeas: 7 - Esquivel, Evans, Lewis, Lively, Meek, Parrish, Post
Exc: 1 - Boone
Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Bradley Volk, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Life and service of Corporal Ellis
- Desired location for memorial road sign

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Corporal Jessica A. 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, Oregon. 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 United States 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, known as a Buffalo. On this day, she had volunteered to take another medic's place on a road-clearing convoy and the Buffalo made contact with an improvised explosive device (IED). 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 and recognizes Corporal Ellis, and the Ellis family, for their sacrifice during the Iraq War (2003-2011).