

**SCR 13 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Esquivel

**House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness**

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**Action Date:** 05/18/17  
**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

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Recognizes Jason Westlund for exemplary service in assisting accident victim.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Events of accident on August 2, 2016
- Riley Russell's recovery
- Jason Westlund's conduct and service
- Carrying basic first aid and emergency supplies in vehicles

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

On August 2, 2016, Jason Westlund of Salem, Oregon, who served as a United States Army medic in Iraq, was the first person to arrive at the scene of a head-on vehicle collision on Highway 20 where he discovered Riley Russell pinned between the steering wheel, roof and front column of his truck. As Mr. Westlund assessed Mr. Russell's condition, the vehicle caught fire. Mr. Westlund remained by Mr. Russell's side, obtained a fire extinguisher from bystanders, and put out the flames. Mr. Westlund then communicated Mr. Russell's condition to emergency medical personnel. Riley Russell was evacuated from the scene and Jason Westlund was treated for shock and injuries sustained providing assistance. Riley Russell survived and has since undergone several surgeries. He credits Jason Westlund with saving his life. While visiting Mr. Russell in the hospital, Mr. Westlund presented him with his flight patch from his tour in Iraq.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 13 recognizes Jason Westlund for his exemplary service to his nation, state and community and expresses gratitude for the example of citizenship he has set for all Oregonians. Senate Concurrent Resolution 13 further extends best wishes on behalf of the Legislative Assembly for Riley Russell's continued recovery.