

# Senate Concurrent Resolution 13

Sponsored by Senator GELSER

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Recognizes Jason Westlund for his exemplary service in assisting wounded accident victim.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas Jason Westlund of Salem, Oregon, served as a United States Army medic in Iraq; and

Whereas on August 2, 2016, Jason Westlund was the first person to arrive on the scene of a head-on collision that took place west of Philomath, Oregon, on Highway 20; and

Whereas Jason Westlund found 17-year-old Riley Russell pinned between the steering wheel, roof and front column of his truck; and

Whereas Jason Westlund engaged the severely injured Riley Russell in a conversation in order to assess his condition; and

Whereas while Jason Westlund spoke with the trapped teenager, the truck caught fire; and

Whereas Jason Westlund refused to leave Riley Russell and instead stayed by the burning truck, holding the teenager's hand while calling out to fleeing bystanders for a fire extinguisher; and

Whereas an elderly bystander brought a fire extinguisher to Jason Westlund so that he could put out the fire under the truck's hood; and

Whereas Riley Russell became unresponsive, and Jason Westlund communicated the teenager's dire condition to emergency medical services via telephone and requested a helicopter; and

Whereas Jason Westlund continued to hold onto the teenager's hand until emergency medical technicians arrived, stabilized Riley Russell and evacuated him to the hospital by helicopter; and

Whereas emergency medical technicians then treated Jason Westlund for shock and injuries sustained while assisting the teenager; and

Whereas though needing multiple surgeries, Riley Russell survived and credited Jason Westlund with saving his life; and

Whereas Jason Westlund visited Riley Russell in the hospital and presented his flight patch from his tour in Iraq to the teenager; and

Whereas Jason Westlund demonstrated the hallmarks of courage, preparedness, selflessness and generosity in his efforts to comfort and rescue a 17-year-old youth; now, therefore,

### **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

That we, the members of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly, recognize Jason Westlund for his exemplary service to his nation, state and community and thank him for the example of citizenship that he set for all Oregonians; and be it further

Resolved, That we extend to Riley Russell our best wishes for his continued recovery.

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.