



To: Senate Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee  
From: Assistant Commander Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard  
Date: 16 Feb 2019  
Subject: Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Hwy Signs SB 528

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter in support of SB 528.

As Assistant Commander of the OFSHG I have been involved in many Funeral and Memorial services for Fire Fighters, Law Enforcement, Forest Service and Emergency Services personnel over the last 12 plus years.

One of the highest profile Line of Duty Death services I was involved in was for John Percin Jr. who was one of the 19 Granite Mountain Hotshots killed in Arizona several years ago. One of the more recent services I was involved in was not a high profile incident but was for a forest service employee killed in an automobile crash off duty so it was considered an Active Duty Death, not a Line of Duty Death.

The common denominator of both these services was the family impact, the loss of a loved one. The biggest request from these families is the remembering of their loved one. As a member of the Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard our biggest concern during the services is for the families' wishes and wellbeing. They are in charge of the service, with us being their body guards and servants. What they ask for we do our best to provide and what they don't want to have happen we do our best to make sure it doesn't happen.

By your committee passing the SB 528 this would allow us to assist those families' wishes for a lifetime remembrance by placing a memorial sign, if one is requested for their loved one killed in the Line of Duty.

Respectively,  
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