



Office of Mayor Ted Wheeler
City of Portland

April 22, 2019

Representative Paul Holvey, Chair
House Committee on Rules
900 Court St., NE, HR C
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for considering House Concurrent Resolution 30, recognizing and honoring the life and contribution of Ricky Best. The City of Portland joins you in celebrating and thanking Ricky for his lifetime of service and heroism in the face of hatred.

Ricky Best exemplified the very best of humanity. He served his country honorably for 23 years in the U.S. Army and then joined City of Portland in January of 2015. His colleagues describe him as compassionate, dedicated and big-hearted. While commuting home on May 26th, 2017, he stepped up and intervened to protect two young women who were being verbal assaulted by a man yelling hate-filled, anti-Muslim statements. Ricky was tragically killed during this intervention, as was fellow passenger Taliesin Myrddin Namkai-Meche; Micah David-Cole Fletcher was wounded. Their bravery is to be commended and remembered.

We will always remember Ricky Best for his courageous sacrifice, strength, and compassion. Thank you again for hearing HCR 30 and we urge you to pass the resolution.

With appreciation,

Mayor Ted Wheeler

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