

House Bill 2195

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness)

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**.

Dedicates portion of State Capitol State Park to Vietnam War memorial. Exempts memorial from certain land use laws.

Establishes Vietnam War Memorial Task Force to arrange for development, design and construction of memorial to honor Oregon's Vietnam War veterans.

Directs Department of Veterans' Affairs to maintain finished memorial.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to a memorial to Oregon's Vietnam War veterans; and declaring an emergency.

3 Whereas there were over 700 Oregonians killed in action in the Vietnam War; and

4 Whereas thousands of Oregonians served their country as warriors in Vietnam; and

5 Whereas thousands of other Oregonians served their country in military duty in other parts of
6 the world during the Vietnam War; and

7 Whereas the United States Department of Veterans Affairs has forecast that approximately
8 14,000 Vietnam veterans either have passed away or will die between 2015 and 2020 at a rate of
9 eight veterans per day; and

10 Whereas there is not a Vietnam War Memorial in proximity to the State Capitol; and

11 Whereas it is imperative to memorialize the service and sacrifice of all who served during the
12 tumultuous decades of the Vietnam War; now, therefore,

13 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

14 **SECTION 1. (1) The portion of the State Capitol State Park that is south of Court Street,**
15 **west of the Waverly Street maintenance building and north of the Circuit Rider monument**
16 **is hereby dedicated to a Vietnam War memorial.**

17 **(2) The Vietnam War memorial shall be sufficient in size to accommodate the memorial**
18 **design approved by the Vietnam War Memorial Task Force under section 2 of this 2019 Act.**

19 **(3) A Vietnam War memorial constructed under this section is an outright permitted use**
20 **without taking an exception under ORS 197.732 to the statewide land use planning goals or**
21 **changing the acknowledged comprehensive plan or land use regulations of Marion County.**

22 **SECTION 2. (1) The Vietnam War Memorial Task Force is established. The Director of**
23 **Veterans' Affairs shall be a cochairperson of the task force. The director shall appoint an-**
24 **other cochairperson of the task force from among those nominated by a nonprofit charitable**
25 **corporation organized in this state that is dedicated to establishing a Vietnam War memorial**
26 **on the grounds of the State Capitol. The cochairpersons may appoint other members to the**
27 **task force at their discretion.**

28 **(2) The task force shall:**

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.

1 (a) Solicit private funding for the development, design and construction of a memorial
2 to honor Oregon's Vietnam War era veterans;

3 (b) After arranging for full funding for the memorial under paragraph (a) of this sub-
4 section, arrange for the development, design and construction of the memorial at the area
5 described in section 1 of this 2019 Act; and

6 (c) Seek the input of Vietnam War veterans, as appropriate.

7 (3) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction
8 of business.

9 (4) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members
10 of the task force.

11 (5) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
12 ment to become immediately effective.

13 (6) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of one of the
14 cochairpersons or of a majority of the members of the task force.

15 (7) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

16 (8) Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for
17 expenses and serve as volunteers on the task force.

18 (9) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the
19 task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to
20 confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force
21 consider necessary to perform their duties.

22 SECTION 3. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
23 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect
24 on its passage.

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