Whereas Sergeant First Class Scot R. Noss was born on August 31, 1977, in Lebanon, Oregon; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss attended Queen Anne Elementary School and Lebanon Middle School and graduated from Lebanon Union High School in 1996; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss excelled as a high school football player, and he was the Valley League Defensive Player of the Year in 1996 and was honored as an all-star in the statewide Shrine Game; and

Whereas after graduating from high school, Sergeant First Class Noss joined Youth with a Mission and traveled to China and Hong Kong on an outreach trip; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss then enlisted in the United States Army to follow his childhood dream of becoming an Army Ranger; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss attended basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and advanced individual training at Fort Lee, Virginia; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss served with great distinction and valor during eight deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan as an Army Ranger; and

Whereas on February 17, 2007, Sergeant First Class Noss suffered a severe traumatic brain injury in a helicopter crash in the mountains of southern Afghanistan; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss continues to be minimally conscious and he was retired from the Army after more than 11 years of service with an honorable medical discharge; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss's many decorations and commendations include the Bronze Star, Order of Saint Maurice, Meritorious Service Medal, Valorous Unit Award, Combat Infantryman Badge, Ranger Tab and Parachutist Badge; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss has been inducted into the Lebanon High School Hall of Fame, and the library at Pioneer School in Lebanon has been named in his honor; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss was an outstanding soldier and leader who was proud to serve his country as an Army Ranger; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Noss's courage and selfless devotion to duty, often in the midst of harrowing combat conditions, exemplify the spirit and values of the United States Army Rangers; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor Sergeant First Class Scot R. Noss for his service to his country; and be it further

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt best wishes to Sergeant First Class Noss and his family as he fights to recover from his injuries.