

HB 4083 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

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Meeting Dates: 2/6, 2/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies criteria for erecting roadside memorial signs for deceased veterans formerly designated prisoners of war or unaccounted for and whose remains have been returned to Oregon. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Number of veterans presumably affected by HB 4083
- Nationwide Medal of Honor Highway
- Merchant Marine designation as members of armed forces in World War 2

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, memorial signs may be installed for individuals who were killed in action while serving in a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. After five individuals were so honored by legislation in 2013, a new process was enacted in 2015 that requires the Legislative Assembly adopt a concurrent resolution, followed by completion of an application and payment of \$600 for sign installation. Thirty individuals had been so memorialized between 2016 and 2018.

House Bill 4083 permits the state to erect roadside memorial signs for veterans who were officially designated as either a prisoner of war or unaccounted for by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency through a separate process than the concurrent resolution process.