

Senate Bill 1542

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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 to be funded and constructed by qualified nonprofit corporation recognized and acknowledged by Director of Veterans' Affairs. Exempts memorial from certain land use laws.

Directs Department of Veterans' Affairs to maintain finished memorial.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

13 **SECTION 1. (1) The portion of the State Capitol State Park that is the southwest corner
14 of the park, just to the south of the World War II memorial, is hereby dedicated to a
15 Vietnam War memorial.**

16 **(2) The Vietnam War memorial shall be sufficient in size to accommodate the memorial
17 design approved by the nonprofit corporation described in section 2 of this 2020 Act.**

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

21 **(4) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall maintain the finished memorial.**

22 **SECTION 2. (1) The Vietnam War memorial described in section 1 of this 2020 Act is to
23 be funded and constructed by a nonprofit corporation that is:**

24 **(a) Organized in this state;**

25 **(b) Dedicated to establishing a Vietnam War memorial on the grounds of the State Cap-
26 itol State Park; and**

27 **(c) Recognized and acknowledged by the Director of Veterans' Affairs as the sole**

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 **nonprofit corporation that is undertaking this project.**

2 **(2) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the**
3 **nonprofit corporation, to the extent permitted by law, including laws related to**
4 **confidentiality, to furnish information and advice to the nonprofit corporation that the cor-**
5 **poration considers necessary to complete the Vietnam War memorial described in section 1**
6 **of this 2020 Act.**

7 **SECTION 3. This 2020 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
8 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2020 Act takes effect**
9 **on its passage.**

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