

## **SB 319 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management**

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**Prepared By:** Cassie Passon, Counsel

**Sub-Referral To:** House Committee On Rules

**Meeting Dates:** 4/22, 5/18

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Dedicates section of State Capitol State Park for Vietnam War memorial. Establishes location of Vietnam War memorial within State Capitol State Park. Exempts memorial from certain land use laws. Directs State Parks and Recreation Department to maintain completed memorial. Requires memorial to be funded and build by an Oregon nonprofit that is dedicated to establishing a Vietnam War memorial in State Capitol State Park. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

*Subsequent referral to HRULES*

*Senate Votes: Ayes, 29; Excused, 1--Heard*

*REVENUE: No revenue impact*

*FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued*

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Those who served in Vietnam and what they did during the war
- Protested of Vietnam War at home
- Lingering effects of Vietnam War on veterans and families
- End of Vietnam War and return of veterans
- Third attempt at passing legislation to get memorial on Capitol grounds
- Other wars memorialized in Salem/on Capitol grounds
- History of project
- Next steps for project
- Memorial Location
- Number of Oregonians who served in Vietnam

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

A memorial dedicated to the Vietnam War veterans of Oregon was dedicated in 1987 in Washington Park in Portland. Other Vietnam War memorials in Oregon are located in Beaverton, Bend, Canby, Eagle Point, Enterprise, Eugene, Richland, Rogue River, and Salem.

Other memorials and monuments on the State Capitol grounds include: a replica of the Liberty Bell outside the west entrance; statues of Jason Lee, John McLoughlin, and a Circuit Rider in Capitol Park on the east side of the grounds; memorials to the state's Medal of Honor recipients surrounding the U.S. Flag and State Flag; the Walk of the Flags of the 50 states and nine federally recognized Native American tribes in Willson Park to the west of the Capitol; the Sprague Fountain just west of the Walk of the Flags; and the Oregon World War II Memorial on the northwest edge of the grounds.

Senate Bill 319 dedicates a section of the State Capitol State Park for a Vietnam War memorial, to be funded and built by an Oregon nonprofit that is dedicated to establishing a Vietnam War memorial within the State Capitol State Park.