

# D R A F T

## SUMMARY

Digest: Honors Dick Tobiason and all of his work for veterans. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.3).

Expresses gratefulness to Oregon veterans' advocate Dick Tobiason.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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2 Whereas for the last two decades, the face of service to our veterans in  
3 Bend, in Deschutes County, and all across Oregon has been Lieutenant  
4 Colonel Dick Tobiason; and

5 Whereas Dick Tobiason served 20 years in the United States Army, re-  
6 tiring as a Lieutenant Colonel and Army Master Aviator with two tours in  
7 Vietnam; and

8 Whereas Dick Tobiason is a combat-wounded veteran and a recipient of  
9 the Purple Heart who has dedicated his life to honoring Oregon's veteran  
10 community; and

11 Whereas during his first tour of duty in Vietnam in 1966 and 1967, Dick  
12 Tobiason served as the commanding officer of a forward air patrol unit that  
13 supported the 3rd Marine Division; and

14 Whereas during his second tour in 1972 and 1973, Dick Tobiason was an  
15 advisor to the South Vietnamese government; and

16 Whereas after retiring from the Army, Dick Tobiason worked at NASA  
17 as a manager of its flight research program in Washington, D.C.; and

18 Whereas Dick Tobiason has been involved as an advocate in the federal,  
19 state and local legislative process since 1985, and in that time, his nonprofit  
20 organization, the Bend Heroes Foundation, has helped Oregon adopt laws

1 honoring nearly half a million Oregon veterans who served during World  
2 War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf  
3 War and the Afghanistan and Iraq War; and

4 Whereas as chairman and founder, Dick Tobiason led the Bend Heroes  
5 Foundation to open the Central Oregon Veterans Village, a safe rest village  
6 that helps homeless veterans move into permanent housing and stable em-  
7 ployment; and

8 Whereas Dick Tobiason also successfully led efforts in Deschutes County  
9 to designate a bridge in honor of World War II Medal of Honor recipient  
10 Bob Maxwell; and

11 Whereas in 2017, Dick Tobiason contributed significantly to the passage  
12 of House Bill 2100, designating a portion of United States Highway 20 as the  
13 Oregon Medal of Honor Highway; and

14 Whereas since the passage of House Bill 2100 (2017), 12 other states, in  
15 partnership with Dick Tobiason, have adopted similar frameworks and cre-  
16 ated a memorial highway network that spans the nation and honors Medal  
17 of Honor recipients from coast to coast; and

18 Whereas Dick Tobiason has continued his tireless efforts to honor veter-  
19 ans, helping to pass legislation in 2020 designating the POW/MIA Memorial  
20 Highway in Oregon, and, in 2023, creating Oregon's Gold Star Families Me-  
21 morial Highway, honoring service members who fell in the line of duty and  
22 creating places of remembrance for their surviving family; and

23 Whereas Dick Tobiason's remarkable life has been led not only in service  
24 to Oregon, but also dedicated to his brothers and sisters in arms throughout  
25 the great history of the United States; and

26 Whereas Dick Tobiason has held aloft the memory of those our country  
27 has lost to war, and every day he honors all Oregonians who carry the dis-  
28 tinction of calling themselves veterans; now, therefore,

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

30 That we, the members of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly, recog-  
31 nize and honor Lieutenant Colonel Dick Tobiason for his lifetime of service

1 and dedication to Oregon's veterans, Medal of Honor recipients and Gold  
2 Star families.

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