

HB 2144 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

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Meeting Dates: 5/9, 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Removes the requirement that the remains of Armed Forces service members killed in the line of duty and formerly designated as either prisoners of war or unaccounted for by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency be returned to Oregon to receive Fallen Hero roadside memorial recognition.

Fiscal: Minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

House Vote: 50-0-6-4

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Via House Bill 3039 (2011), the Legislative Assembly directed the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to erect and maintain roadside memorial signs for law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. The measure also created the Roadside Memorial Fund and continuously appropriated moneys for the purpose of constructing and maintaining roadside memorial signs. In 2013, the Legislative Assembly expanded the program to allow roadside memorials honoring fallen members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

House Bill 2700 (2021) permitted the installation of roadside memorial signs for service members killed in the line of duty previously designated as either a prisoner of war or unaccounted for by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. The measure specified that an individual's remains must be recovered, identified, and returned to Oregon.

House Bill 2144 A removes the roadside memorial qualification requirement that an individual's remains be returned to Oregon following recovery and identification.