

HCR 204 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Linthicum

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

Action Date: 02/27/24
Action: Do adopt.
Vote: 5-0-0-0
Yeas: 5 - Gorsek, Linthicum, Manning Jr, Thatcher, Woods
Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Whitney Perez, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 2/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure recognizes and honors Deputy Allen Burdic for his service to Oregon.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Honoring Deputy Burdic through a roadside memorial
- Importance of recognizing and remembering injured law enforcement officers

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Douglas County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Allen Burdic was born on April 10, 1955, to Raymond and Margene Burdic. He grew up in Myrtle Creek, Oregon, and graduated from South Umpqua High School in 1973.

Deputy Burdic began his law enforcement career with the Canyonville Police Department in October 1976, where he served for nearly three years before joining the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office in July 1979.

His life was forever changed in the early morning hours of August 13, 1980, when, after responding to a reported shooting at the Nutshell Tavern in Myrtle Creek the night before, he encountered the suspect at a gravel turnout north of the Myrtle Creek Bridge near Interstate 5. The suspect fired twice on Deputy Burdic, striking him in the spine and the abdomen, before stealing his patrol car and running over his legs while fleeing the scene. That encounter left Deputy Burdic with a limp, partial paralysis in one arm, and nerve damage so severe from the bullet that impacted his spine that the pain stayed with him for over 40 years, eventually claiming his life.

Deputy Burdic medically retired from the Douglas County Sheriff’s Office in 1982. He briefly returned to the Canyonville Police Department, working as a police officer from July 1984 to November 1985.

Deputy Burdic was skilled at woodworking and metalworking, enjoyed working with computers, had a passion for motorcycles, and fulfilled his dream of owning a Corvette. Despite suffering unimaginable pain from his injuries for the rest of his life, Deputy Burdic faced each new day with warmth, kindness, and humor and was a beacon of strength, gentleness, and perseverance to all who were lucky enough to know him.

Deputy Burdic died on March 11, 2021, due to complications from the injuries he sustained on that fateful night in 1980. He was a devoted and loving husband to Erlah, father to stepdaughter April, grandfather to four grandchildren, and great-grandfather to three great-grandchildren.

Deputy Burdic was a dedicated law enforcement professional who served the people of the State of Oregon with honor and integrity.