PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY   CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued
SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:
Vote:
        Yeas:
        Nays:
        Exc.:
Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 3/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Amends statute governing memorial road signs to include Army Specialist John Alexander Pelham. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: In 2011, the Legislature passed House Bill 3039, establishing the Roadside Memorial Fund to enable the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to erect roadside memorial signs commemorating law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Pursuant to House Bill 3039, signs are erected when a concurrent resolution recognizing the police officer is adopted by the Legislature and ODOT receives funds to cover the cost of installation and maintenance. In 2013, the Legislature passed two more measures, House Bills 2708 and 3494, in an attempt to expand the availability of roadside memorial signs to include members of the Armed Forces killed in action. Currently pending before the 78th Legislative Assembly is House Bill 2389, which if it passes, will standardize the method to recognize both fallen law enforcement officers and servicemembers via passage of a concurrent resolution.

Senate Bill 717 is a companion measure to Senate Concurrent Resolution 7, honoring Army Specialist John Alexander Pelham, who died on February 12, 2014, from wounds sustained in an exchange of small arms fire on his second tour of duty in Afghanistan. If House Bill 2389 becomes law, Senate Concurrent Resolution 7 will enable the installation of a roadside memorial sign. If House Bill 2389 does *not* become law, Senate Bill 717 will enable the installation of a roadside memorial sign.

3/26/2015 10:37:00 AM *
This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.