PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY   CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued
SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:	
Vote:	
Yeas:	
Nays:	
Exc.:	
Prepared By:	Cheyenne Ross, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Designates portion of U.S. Highway 395 as "World War I Veterans Memorial Highway;" Interstate 5 as "Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway" and "Purple Heart Trail;" and U.S. Highway 101 as "Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq Veterans Memorial Highway." Directs Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to place and maintain markers. Permits acceptance of funds and agreements with veterans' groups to that end. Prohibits use of public funds. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: The United States awards Purple Hearts to military personnel wounded or killed in action. Designating the Oregon portion of Interstate 5 as the "Purple Heart Trail" would link the same designations in Washington and California for a single line from Canada to Mexico, honoring deceased and wounded servicemembers and veterans.

Similar measures naming Oregon roadways for veterans have passed in previous legislative sessions, including most recently: House Bill 4023 (2014) to name the portion of U.S. 26 within the Warm Springs Reservation the "Warm Springs Veterans Memorial Highway," and Senate Bill 461 (2013) naming Interstate 84, from Oregon's border with Idaho, west to the point where it meets Interstate 5, the "Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway."

House Bill 2036 combines three border-to-border highway initiatives to name the remaining balance of Oregon's highways in honor of veterans of the First World War, the Korean War, the Persian Gulf War, and the Global War on Terror.

House Committee: *6 – 0 – 1*
House Floor: *58 – 0 – 2*

4/27/2015 10:20:00 AM *
This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.
Committee Services Form – 2015 Regular Session