

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER: Sen. Olsen

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

**Fiscal:** No Fiscal Impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

**Action Date:** 04/14/15

**Action:** Be Adopted.

**Meeting Dates:** 04/14

**Vote:**

Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Monnes Anderson, Olsen, President Courtney

**Prepared By:** Cheyenne Ross, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Honors U.S. Marine Corporal Keaton Grant Coffey (1989-2012).

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Corporal Coffey's life and sacrifice

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Keaton Coffey was born on August 21, 1989, to a family of firefighters and police officers. He grew up in Boring, Oregon, with faith, belief in hard work and a desire to serve others; he secretly yearned to serve his country long before his parents knew. He graduated from Damascus Christian School in 2007 and attended George Fox University before enlisting in the United States Marine Corps in 2008.

He was assigned to the 1st Law Enforcement Battalion, 1st Marine Headquarters Group, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, at Camp Pendleton, California, and worked as a dog handler. He was exemplary at his job and never shied away from danger. He was on his second tour of duty with a Marine Special Operations Regiment, also called the Marine Raiders, as their Military Working Dog handler when he was killed on May 24, 2012, while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

He was engaged to be married on July 14, 2012; he was loved and respected by his fellow Marines; and he hoped to follow in his father's footsteps one day, to become a firefighter. There are charitable fundraising activities held in his name, to benefit a scholarship established in his honor, the Vietnam Veterans Mid-Valley Chapter 585, and families of the Marine Raiders killed during a helicopter training exercise in Florida on March 10, 2015.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 14 recognizes the life and sacrifice of Corporal Keaton Coffey.