

Enrolled

House Concurrent Resolution 10

Sponsored by Representatives BUEHLER, WHISNANT, Senators JOHNSON, KNOPP; Representative HUFFMAN (Presession filed.)

Whereas the nonprofit organization Bend Heroes Foundation opened its doors in 2010 with a mission to honor veterans and first responders; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation was founded by Vietnam War veteran Dick Tobiason and his son Erik Tobiason; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation has honored 550 World War II veterans between the ages of 88 and 102, from 22 Oregon counties, by providing them with four-day Honor Flights to Washington, D.C., to visit their national World War II Memorial, 10 other veterans memorials and the United States Capitol; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation has worked with the Legislative Assembly to create six border-to-border veterans memorial highways in Oregon, honoring the nearly 480,000 Oregon veterans who served, and the more than 21,000 who became casualties, during five major wars over the last 100 years; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation's veterans highway signs project has installed 67 signs, including signs for two unique memorial highways, the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq Veterans Memorial Highway, the first of its kind in the nation, and Oregon's Purple Heart Trail, which connects to Washington's and California's trails to create the first continuous Purple Heart Trail to reach the United States' borders with both Canada and Mexico; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation created the Oregon Medal of Honor Exhibit, honoring Oregon's 26 veterans who, beginning with the Civil War, received our country's highest military award for heroism above and beyond the call of duty; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation created the Bend Heroes Memorial and the Bend Parade of Flags and instituted the Purple Heart City and the Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day projects in Bend; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation has connected World War II veterans with students at Bend Senior High School and Summit High School during Veterans Day assemblies; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation initiated Bend's participation in the national Wreaths Across America program and has since inspired other central Oregon cities to follow its example; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation has raised over \$800,000 from many generous donors across Oregon to complete 30 veterans projects; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation has received national, state and local recognition for its veteran projects and patriotism; and

Whereas the Bend Heroes Foundation's projects have honored Oregon's veterans and increased public awareness of their more than 150 years of service and sacrifice; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly, commend the Bend Heroes Foundation for its work in recognizing and honoring Oregon's veterans and their faithful service to their country.

Adopted by House March 2, 2017

Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate May 11, 2017

Peter Courtney, President of Senate