

Enrolled
House Concurrent Resolution 27

Sponsored by Representative RESCHKE, Senators OLSEN, LINTHICUM; Representative KENNEMER

Whereas Corporal Jessica A. Ellis was born in Burley, Idaho, on June 26, 1983, to Steve and Linda Ellis; and

Whereas because her father's career required the family to move frequently, Corporal Jessica A. Ellis and her brother and sister, Cameron and Amanda, lived in various parts of the country while growing up; and

Whereas in 1997, Corporal Jessica A. Ellis moved with her family to Lakeview, Oregon; and

Whereas Corporal Jessica A. Ellis graduated in 2002 from Lakeview High School, where she had competed in cross country, swimming and track, and later earned an associate of arts degree at Central Oregon Community College in Bend; and

Whereas Corporal Jessica A. Ellis spent her college summers as a United States Forest Service firefighter on the Fremont-Winema National Forest in southern Oregon; and

Whereas Corporal Jessica A. Ellis loved running, fishing and spending time with her family and their animals; and

Whereas Corporal Jessica A. Ellis joined the United States Army in September 2004 and was assigned to the 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), based out of Fort Campbell in Kentucky, and was twice deployed as a combat medic in Iraq; and

Whereas in keeping with her well-deserved reputation for putting the well-being of others before her own, Corporal Jessica A. Ellis earned the Combat Medic Badge during her first tour in Iraq for treating a wounded soldier under direct enemy fire; and

Whereas Corporal Jessica A. Ellis' courage, competence, friendliness and dependability earned her the nickname "Doc Ellis" from her fellow soldiers; and

Whereas during her second tour, three weeks after surviving a roadside blast that severely damaged her armored vehicle, known as a Buffalo, during a road-clearing operation, Corporal Jessica A. Ellis volunteered to take another medic's place on a road-clearing convoy and was killed in Baghdad, Iraq, on May 11, 2008, when the Buffalo in which she was riding made contact with an improvised explosive device; and

Whereas all who knew her will remember Corporal Jessica A. Ellis' famously indomitable curls that seemed a symbol of her bright and undaunted personality, but even more will they remember her dedication to and deep concern for her fellow soldiers; and

Whereas Corporal Jessica A. Ellis, in addition to her previous awards, posthumously received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery; and

Whereas Corporal Jessica A. Ellis' father said of her that "she gave the largest sacrifice a person could, selflessly, like she did everything else in her life"; and

Whereas Corporal Jessica A. Ellis is survived by her parents and her brother and sister; now, therefore,

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

We, the members of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor Corporal Jessica A. Ellis for her service to her country.

Adopted by House April 24, 2017

Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate June 1, 2017

Peter Courtney, President of Senate