

HCR 4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: C. Ross, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Honors Specialist Nickolaus Gregory Gossack (1987-2010) for his service.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Specialist Nickolaus Gossack was born in Salem on January 4, 1987 and grew up in Silverton where he participated in many activities, including Cub Scouts, Little League baseball, and soccer. He was deeply affected by the attacks on 9/11, which occurred when he was a freshman in high school, and frequently expressed a desire to join the military. After graduating from Silverton High School in 2005, operating a nursery business for a couple years, and attending Chemeketa Community College, Specialist Gossack came to realize that military service was his true calling. He enlisted in the United States Army in 2007 and deployed to Iraq in 2008 with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment. He was at his best driving armored personnel carriers, making sure his fellow soldiers had backup and a way out of danger. He returned from Iraq in 2009 and was actively training for his next deployment when he was killed in an accident at Fort Hood, Texas, on June 20, 2010.

Specialist Gossack received the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon and the Army Service Ribbon. He is honored and remembered at the Freedom Memorial Plaza in Silverton and the Illuminating Courage Military Memorial in Spokane, Washington.

House Concurrent Resolution 4 recognizes the loss of Specialist Nickolaus Gregory Gossack and his service to his country.