

HCR 31 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: C. Ross, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 5/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Recognizes and honors Chief John Joseph Brazil (1944-2018) for his service to this state.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Chief John Joseph Brazil was born on August 31, 1944, and grew up in Sacramento, California, working beside his father on the family farm starting at the age of seven. He had a passion for anything mechanical, and he built and drove dragsters as a young man. He graduated from Norte del Rio High School in Sacramento in 1962, married his sweetheart Patra Richardson in 1963, and together they raised two daughters. He loved spending time with his family, including camping and sailing, and he especially loved coaching his children and grandchildren in their many sporting activities. Chief Brazil had a long and successful career in telecommunications, working for Verizon, AT&T, Western Electric, Pacific Bell and GTE, and when he retired in 2002, he and his wife moved to Harbor, Oregon. He began volunteering as a firefighter for the Harbor Rural Fire Protection District, and quickly rose through the ranks until he became chief in 2007. He conducted himself with consummate professionalism, integrity and dedication, and held the position of chief until his death on August 15, 2018, after a battle with lung and bone cancer.

Chief Brazil was a revered pillar of the Harbor, Brookings and Gold Beach communities. Flags were flown at half-staff following his death. A memorial procession of emergency vehicles stretched from the Harbor Fire Hall to the Port of Brookings Harbor in his honor, followed by a service that included a cordon of honor of uniformed first responders. He is greatly missed by his family and many friends.

House Concurrent Resolution 31 honors and recognizes Chief John Joseph Brazil for his service to the state.