

SB 528 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Witt

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 05/14/19

Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 7-0-1-0

Yeas: 7 - Evans, Findley, Lewis, Meek, Neron, Wallan, Wilde

Exc: 1 - Zika

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Department of Transportation to erect and maintain roadside memorial signs for firefighters killed in the line of duty. Requires payment of fee before Department may erect sign.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Firefighters face life-threatening situations similar to military and law enforcement
- Stories of firefighters who died while performing their duties

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2011, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 3039, establishing the Roadside Memorial Fund to receive and appropriate moneys to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to erect roadside memorial signs commemorating law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Pursuant to House Bill 3039, signs are erected when a concurrent resolution recognizing the police officer is adopted by the legislature and ODOT receives funds to cover the cost of installation and maintenance. House Bill 2708 (2013) expanded the memorial program to include members of the Armed Forces killed in action.

Senate Bill 528 extends the availability of roadside memorial signs to include firefighters killed in the line of duty.