

HB 2700 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

Prepared By: Cassie Passon, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 1/26, 2/23, 3/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds alternative criteria for erecting roadside memorial signs for deceased veterans formerly designated prisoners of war or unaccounted for whose remains have been returned to Oregon. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: *No revenue impact*

FISCAL: *Has minimal fiscal impact*

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Concept previous introduced in 2020 session as HB 4083; did not pass second chamber before adjournment
- No cost to state to erect signs
- Bill going to Veterans' work group

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, memorial signs may be installed for individuals who were killed in action while serving in a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. After five individuals were so honored by legislation in 2013, a new process was enacted in 2015 that requires the Legislative Assembly adopt a concurrent resolution, followed by completion of an application and payment of \$600 for sign installation. Thirty individuals have been memorialized between 2016 and 2018.

House Bill 2700 permits the state to erect roadside memorial signs for veterans who were officially designated as either a prisoner of war or unaccounted for by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency through a separate process, in addition to the existing concurrent resolution process.