

SB 319 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Manning Jr

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 03/02/21

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 3-1-0-0

Yeas: 3 - Manning Jr, Patterson, Thomsen

Nays: 1 - Linthicum

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Regina Wilson, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/9, 3/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Dedicates a location on State Capitol grounds for the installation of a Vietnam War Memorial. Allows a qualifying nonprofit corporation to fund and construct the memorial as an outright permitted land use to be maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD). Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Oregonians who served during Vietnam War era
- United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration
- Senate Bill 1542-A of 2020

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Nearly fifty years ago, approximately nine million American service men and women served during the Vietnam War era; an estimated total of 180,000 were Oregonians.

The public park surrounding Oregon’s Capitol Building is home to a number of monuments, statues, and dedications, including those that honor service members and their families, such as the Medal of Honor Memorials and the World War II Memorial next to Rosie the Riveter Memorial Garden. Currently, no state-designated memorial exists, specific to the Vietnam War.

Senate Bill 319 dedicates a site on State Capitol grounds for construction of a Vietnam War Memorial.