

Submitter: Cindy Bennett

On Behalf Of: Pass SB 1509

Committee: House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

Measure: SB1509

I would encourage the passage of SB 1509. All Oregonians are indebted to Oregon Nisei Veterans through their courageous service in World War II. This was a hard time in history that we asked so much of this group of Americans and yet failed to give them the thanks and consideration they deserved as they served or upon their homecoming. I lived in a neighboring county of Hood River in the 70's and it was common to hear misunderstandings and racism, even still at that time in history towards Japanese Americans. Renaming Highway 35, in a small way, is one way to provide reconciliation to the Oregon Nisei Veterans and their children that followed after them. This is a beautiful way to symbolize a long past due thank you to these veterans and families. This also will help our collective community now and in the future to be fully educated of the sacrifice and challenges that were carried by our Japanese American neighbors in these years.

Please vote yes, to move this bill to full passage.

Thank you,

Cindy Bennett