

Ken and Jan Nolley
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Salem, OR 97302
(503-362-0492)

February 15, 2022

TO: House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness
RE: SB 1509

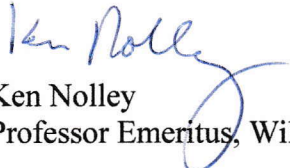
Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Lewis, Vice-Chair Meek, and members of the committee:

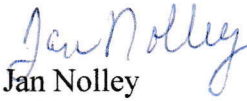
We are writing in strong support of SB 1509 that would designate Oregon Route 35 as an Oregon Nisei Veteran's World War II Historic Highway.

We have many friends, dating all the way back to our college days, whose families spent WWII in internment camps with all of the attendant shame and loss that went with that experience. Our friendships have led us to read and explore deeply the Japanese-American experience during the war, and we have visited the sites of a number of the camps in recent years. Ken developed and taught a course on the Japanese-American experience during the war, something that expanded and deepened our interest.

Through it all, we have come to respect deeply the patriotism and bravery of the Nisei troops, whose dedication did not flag in the face of the painful experiences their families were going through. We enthusiastically support SB 1509.

Sincerely,


Ken Nolley
Professor Emeritus, Willamette University


Jan Nolley
MSW