

HB 3000 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Action Date: 02/07/23

Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 7-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Conrad, Dexter, Evans, Grayber, Hieb, Lewis, Tran

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

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Meeting Dates: 2/2, 2/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$20,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Transportation to cover the costs associated with the Fallen Hero roadside memorial signs, and \$5,000 to cover the surcharge required for Gold Star Family member veterans' recognition registration plates for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Recollections from Gold Star Family members
- Honoring the legacy of fallen heroes
- Support for Gold Star Families

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2013, Oregon enacted legislation that honored five Oregonians who were killed in the line of duty while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Two years later, the Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 2389 (2015), establishing the Fallen Hero memorial program. Through the program, the Legislative Assembly may enact a concurrent resolution for an individual killed in action, or who is recognized as a prisoner of war or missing in action (POW/MIA) if the individual's remains have been recovered. Once a resolution is adopted, the applicant must submit an application along with a \$600 fee to cover the cost of the signage. Fifty individuals have been recognized throughout the program's existence.

The Oregon Department of Transportation's Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV) offers specialty license plates to veterans, disabled veterans, and qualified family members of veterans. The plates denote branch of service, campaign or service medals, recognize permanently disabled veterans, and support service organizations. Qualified individuals pay a one-time, permanent fee for disabled veteran plates, while other veterans pay a fee at issuance and renewal.

House Bill 3000 allocates moneys from the General Fund to cover costs during the 2023-2025 biennium of Fallen Hero roadside memorial signs (\$20,000) and Gold Star Family member veterans' recognition registration plates (\$5,000).