

Submitter: Ramiro Navarro Jr

On Behalf
Of: Veterans Caucus

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital
Construction

Measure: HB5030

Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Holvey and members of the Committee,

For the record my name is Ramiro Navarro Jr, I am an Army Veteran and the Caucus Administrator for the Oregon Veterans Caucus. The Caucus is a bi-partisan, bi-cameral caucus consisting of veterans and military families who share the passion of honoring those who serve.

I am testifying today in support of HB5030 and the funding for the Oregon Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the amount of 1.85million. The VVMF (say this out) has already pledged to complete the 4m total needed for the project.

Many Vietnam veterans were never afforded any honor upon coming home and that treatment has had lasting impacts upon them. Vietnam vets are among the highest in suicide rates and homelessness rates in Oregon. It is time for Oregon to tell them they matter. Supporting HB 5030 to help build the Vietnam War Memorial would give them a place to remember their sacrifice to their country and their place in history.

On behalf of the Oregon Veterans Caucus I urge your aye vote. I am available for questions if the committee has any.