

## Enrolled

# House Concurrent Resolution 202

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans for Representative Dacia Grayber)

Whereas for the last two decades, the face of service to our veterans in Bend, in Deschutes County, and all across Oregon has been Lieutenant Colonel Dick Tobiason; and

Whereas Dick Tobiason served 20 years in the United States Army, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel and Army Master Aviator with two tours in Vietnam; and

Whereas Dick Tobiason is a combat-wounded veteran and a recipient of the Purple Heart who has dedicated his life to honoring Oregon's veteran community; and

Whereas during his first tour of duty in Vietnam in 1966 and 1967, Dick Tobiason served as the commanding officer of a forward air patrol unit that supported the 3rd Marine Division; and

Whereas during his second tour in 1972 and 1973, Dick Tobiason was an advisor to the South Vietnamese government; and

Whereas after retiring from the Army, Dick Tobiason worked at NASA as a manager of its flight research program in Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas Dick Tobiason has been involved as an advocate in the federal, state and local legislative process since 2003, and in that time, his nonprofit organization, the Bend Heroes Foundation, has helped Oregon adopt laws honoring nearly half a million Oregon veterans who served during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War and the Afghanistan and Iraq War; and

Whereas as chairman and founder, Dick Tobiason led the Bend Heroes Foundation to open the Central Oregon Veterans Village, a safe rest village that helps homeless veterans move into permanent housing and stable employment; and

Whereas Dick Tobiason also successfully led efforts in Deschutes County to designate a bridge in honor of World War II Medal of Honor recipient Bob Maxwell; and

Whereas Dick Tobiason helped pass legislation in 2015 designating the Purple Heart Trail in Oregon; and

Whereas in 2017, Dick Tobiason contributed significantly to the passage of House Bill 2100, designating a portion of United States Highway 20 as the Oregon Medal of Honor Highway; and

Whereas since the passage of House Bill 2100 (2017), 12 other states, in partnership with Dick Tobiason, have adopted similar frameworks and created a memorial highway network that spans the nation and honors Medal of Honor recipients from coast to coast; and

Whereas Dick Tobiason has continued his tireless efforts to honor veterans, helping to pass legislation in 2020 designating the POW/MIA Memorial Highway in Oregon, in 2022 designating the Oregon Nisei Veterans World War II Memorial Highway and, in 2023, creating Oregon's Gold Star Families Memorial Highway, honoring the families of service members who fell in the line of duty and creating places of remembrance for these surviving family members; and

Whereas Dick Tobiason's remarkable life has been led not only in service to Oregon, but also dedicated to his brothers and sisters in arms throughout the great history of the United States; and

Whereas Dick Tobiason has held aloft the memory of those our country has lost to war, and every day he honors all Oregonians who carry the distinction of calling themselves veterans; now, therefore,

**Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

That we, the members of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor Lieutenant Colonel Dick Tobiason for his lifetime of service and dedication to Oregon's veterans, Medal of Honor recipients and Gold Star families.

---

Adopted by House February 12, 2024

Readopted by House March 6, 2024

---

Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

---

Dan Rayfield, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate March 6, 2024

---

Rob Wagner, President of Senate