

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)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Honors Dick Tobiason and all of his work for veterans. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.3). Expresses gratefulness to Oregon veterans' advocate Dick Tobiason.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 Whereas for the last two decades, the face of service to our veterans in Bend, in Deschutes
3 County, and all across Oregon has been Lieutenant Colonel Dick Tobiason; and

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

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

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

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

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

14 Whereas Dick Tobiason has been involved as an advocate in the federal, state and local legis-
15 lative process since 1985, and in that time, his nonprofit organization, the Bend Heroes Foundation,
16 has helped Oregon adopt laws honoring nearly half a million Oregon veterans who served during
17 World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War and the
18 Afghanistan and Iraq War; and

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

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

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

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

29 Whereas Dick Tobiason has continued his tireless efforts to honor veterans, helping to pass
30 legislation in 2020 designating the POW/MIA Memorial Highway in Oregon, and, in 2023, creating

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 Oregon's Gold Star Families Memorial Highway, honoring service members who fell in the line of
2 duty and creating places of remembrance for their surviving family; and

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

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

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

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

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