

Enrolled

House Concurrent Resolution 38

Sponsored by Representatives ELMER, SCHARF, Senator STARR; Senator MANNING JR

Whereas Deputy Paul Emerson Baker was born on March 6, 1928, in Hutchinson, Kansas, to Harold and Edith Baker; and

Whereas Deputy Baker had two brothers; and

Whereas Deputy Baker moved from Kansas to California with his family, and he graduated from Leuzinger High School; and

Whereas Deputy Baker began his career of public service in 1945, when he was accepted into the United States Merchant Marine; and

Whereas Deputy Baker served in the United States Army during the Korean War, and he deployed overseas for combat duty in August 1951; and

Whereas Deputy Baker was wounded by shrapnel on October 6, 1951, at Heartbreak Ridge in North Korea; and

Whereas Deputy Baker received numerous military awards for his service, including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Korean Service Medal with two battle stars, United Nations Service Medal Korea, Presidential Unit Citation and Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation; and

Whereas Deputy Baker began his law enforcement career by joining the police department in Hawthorne, California, where he served for two years; and

Whereas Deputy Baker met his future wife, Carmen E. Jacobsen, when he issued her a ticket for speeding; and

Whereas Deputy Baker married Carmen on October 16, 1954, and together they had six children: Paula Marie Baker, Ronald Paul Baker, Carla Rose (Baker) Alder, Loretta Jean (Baker) Aker, Monica Lynn Baker and Rita Ann Baker; and

Whereas Deputy Baker joined the California Highway Patrol in January 1957, and he served the agency for 17 years; and

Whereas Deputy Baker and his family moved to Oregon in 1976; and

Whereas Deputy Baker resumed his law enforcement career as a civil deputy with the Yamhill County Sheriff's Office in September 1979; and

Whereas Deputy Baker was traveling across a bridge on Highway 99W across the Yamhill River on January 21, 1982, when his patrol truck was struck head-on by another vehicle; and

Whereas Deputy Baker succumbed the following day to the injuries he sustained in the crash; and

Whereas Deputy Baker was 53 years old at the time of his death; and

Whereas Deputy Baker was laid to rest in St. James Cemetery in McMinnville, Oregon; and

Whereas Deputy Baker had many hobbies and interests, including basketball, baseball, bowling, water skiing, golfing, camping and riding his Honda Gold Wing motorcycle across the country with his wife; and

Whereas Deputy Baker was a member of his local chapter of Lions Club International; and

Whereas Deputy Baker enjoyed working on his five-acre farm, which consisted of cherry and walnut trees, cows, sheep, chickens and an immaculate vegetable garden; and

Whereas Deputy Baker was a dedicated law enforcement officer who faithfully served the people of the States of California and Oregon, and he served in the United States military with great honor and distinction; and

Whereas Deputy Baker was widely loved and respected, and many years after his death he is still greatly missed by his family and friends; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor Deputy Paul Emerson Baker for his service to this state.

Adopted by House June 4, 2025

Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate June 17, 2025

Rob Wagner, President of Senate