

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON**  
**VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

April 12, 2005 Hearing Room C

8:30 A.M. Tapes 61 - 64

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**           **Rep. Donna Nelson, Chair**

**Rep. Phil Barnhart, Vice-Chair**

**Rep. Debi Farr, Vice-Chair**

**Rep. Brian Boquist**

**Rep. Scott Bruun**

**Rep. Dave Hunt**

**Rep. Betty Komp**

**STAFF PRESENT:**           **Jim Stembridge, Committee Administrator**

**Erin Seiler, Committee Assistant**

**MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:**

**HCR 9 – Public Hearing**

**HB 2878 – Public Hearing**

**HB 2739 – Public Hearing**

**HB 2795 – Public Hearing**

**These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.**

<b>TAPE #</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Comments</b>
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## **TAPE 61, A**

001 Chair Nelson Opens the meeting at 8:39 a.m. Opens a public hearing on HCR 9.

### **HCR 9 – PUBLIC HEARING**

122 Jim Stembridge Explains HCR 9, which recognizes June 14 of each year as “Honor Our Troops Day.”

136 Mac MacDonald Representative, Veterans’ Organizations. Testifies in opposition to HCR 9.

162 Walter Crews Legislative Representative, Non Commissioned Officers Association. Testifies in opposition to HCR 9.

170 Kevin O’Reilly Government Relations/Advocacy Director, Oregon Paralyzed Veterans’ of America. Testifies in opposition to HCR 9.

201 Chair Nelson Closes the public hearing on HCR 9. Opens a public hearing on HB 2878.

### **HB 2878 – PUBLIC HEARING**

205 Jim Stembridge Committee Administrator. Explains HB 2878, which allows State Parks and Recreation Commission to acquire property rights or interests necessary to develop memorials in honor of veterans and war memorials.

217 Mac MacDonald Representative, Veterans’ Organizations. Testifies in support of HB 2878.

236 Rachel Crawford Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Brian Boquist. Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2878 **(EXHIBIT A)**.

286 Linda Christy Deputy Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2878 **(EXHIBIT B)**.

339 Sue Robertson Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2878 **(EXHIBIT C)**.

## TAPE 62, A

- 003 Rep. Boquist Points out that HB 2878 will only allow the State Parks and Recreation Commission the option to fund memorials in honor of veterans.
- 030 Rep. Hunt Raises concern about the ability of the State Parks and Recreation Commission to seize land for memorials using eminent domain authority.
- 040 Chair Nelson Agrees with inappropriateness of eminent domain authority and that HB 2878 would need an amendment to remove that provision.
- 046 Rep. Barnhart Questions how much the State Parks and Recreation Department actually exercise eminent domain authority and if it is authority that the department needs to maintain for special land use cases.
- 074 Chair Nelson Opens a public hearing on HB 2739.

## HB 2739 – PUBLIC HEARING

- 077 Jim Stembridge Committee Administrator. Explains HB 2739, which directs State Parks and Recreation Director to adopt rules that make state funding assistance available to nonprofit veterans' organizations to construct and restore veterans and war memorials located on public property.
- 085 Rachel Crawford Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Brian Boquist. Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2739 **(EXHIBIT D)**.
- 143 Rep. Boquist Explains why it is necessary to have the provisions in HB 2739 in statute.
- 162 Crawford Concludes summary of written testimony **(EXHIBIT D, Page 2)**.
- 195 Chair Nelson Addresses the opposition of State Parks and Recreation Department to HB 2878 and HB 2739.
- 230 Sue Robertson Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Submits written testimony on behalf of Cliff Robertson in support of HB 2739 **(EXHIBIT E)**.

- 235 Linda Christy Deputy Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Summarizes written testimony of Cliff Robertson (**EXHIBIT E**).
- 278 Robertson Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2739 (**EXHIBIT F**).
- 326 Rep. Hunt Addresses why it would be valuable to speak with the State Parks and Recreation Department Director Tim Wood.
- 344 Rep. Komp Agrees with Rep. Hunt.
- 356 Staff Sergeant Sonya Kingsley Unit Administrator Psychological Operational Company, Portland Company. Testifies in support of HB 2739.

**TAPE 61, B**

- 027 Mac MacDonald Representative, Veterans' Organizations. Testifies in support of HB 2739.
- 039 Chair Nelson Comments why the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs does not exist in Oregon Revised Statutes.
- 049 Staff Sergeant Luke Wilson Veteran, Oregon Resident. Testifies in support of HB 2739.
- 124 Wilson Plays video of his pre-recorded testimony in support of HB 2739.
- 238 Wilson Explains why war memorials are symbolic and serve as an important psychological and emotional outlet for soldiers.

**The following written testimony is submitted for the record without public testimony:**

- Lorena Navarez Citizen, City of Sandy. Submits written testimony in support of HB 2878 (**EXHIBIT G**) and HB 2739 (**EXHIBIT EE**).
- Sue Robertson Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Submits written testimony on behalf of the Coalition of Troop Support Board Members in support of HB 2878 (**EXHIBIT H**) and HB 2739 (**EXHIBIT FF**).

	Sue Robertson	Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Submits written testimony in support of HB 2878( <b>EXHIBIT I</b> ) and HB 2739 ( <b>EXHIBIT GG</b> ).
	Ann Tafolla	Citizen, Oregon. Submits written testimony in support of HB 2878 ( <b>EXHIBIT J</b> ) and HB 2739 ( <b>EXHIBIT HH</b> ).
	Lisa Wells	Citizen, City of Portland. Submits written testimony in support of HB 2878 ( <b>EXHIBIT K</b> ) and HB 2739 ( <b>EXHIBIT II</b> ).
	Tim Wood	Director, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Submits written testimony in opposition to HB 2878 ( <b>EXHIBIT L</b> ).
	Tim Wood	Director, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Submits written testimony in opposition to HB 2739 ( <b>EXHIBIT M</b> ).
249	Chair Nelson	Closes the public hearing on HB 2739 and HB 2878.
270	Chair Nelson	Opens a public hearing on HB 2795.

### **HB 2795 – PUBLIC HEARING**

275	Jim Stembridge	Explains HB 2795, which appropriates moneys from General Fund to Director of Veterans’ Affairs for building memorial to Oregon military personnel killed in Afghanistan and Iraq wars.
309	Chair Nelson	Speaks in support of HB 2795.
365	Clay Kesterson	President, Afghan-Iraqi Freedom War Memorial Fund. Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2795 ( <b>EXHIBIT N</b> ).

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003	M.J. Kesterson	Vice-President, Afghan-Iraqi Freedom War Memorial Fund. Testifies in support of HB 2795.
046	Richard Gorby	President, Oregon State Council of Vietnam Veterans. Testifies in support of HB 2795.
068	Rep. Boquist	

Asks how much money has been raised by the Afghan-Iraqi Freedom War Memorial Fund.

- 071 C. Kesterson States how much money the Afghan-Iraqi Freedom War Memorial Fund has raised.
- 091 Melissa Andrews Citizen, Oregon. Testifies in support of HB 2795.
- 148 John Newman Veteran, City of Welches. Testifies in support of HB 2795.
- 254 Ron Anderson Veteran, City of Wilsonville. Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT O**).
- 357 Lewis White Veteran, City of Sweet Home. Testifies in support of HB 2795.

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- 002 Kristine Van Raden Author, City of Hillsboro. Testifies in support of HB 2795.
- 051 Molly Davis Author, Oregon. Reads “Dear Soldier...” letters written by children from Oregon.
- 087 Jack Fidler Veteran, City of McMinnville. Testifies in support of HB 2795.
- 109 Paula Brown Deputy Director, Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs (ODVA). Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT P**).
- 134 J.J. Brown Student, Cascade High School. Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT Q**).
- 183 Chyla Lulay Student, Cascade High School. Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT R**).
- 241 Bill McMichaels Project Manager, Afghan-Iraqi Freedom War Memorial Fund. Testifies in support of HB 2795.
- 296 Brandon Reece President, VERTEC Development, Inc. Testifies in support of HB 2795.

- 340 David Watts Representative, Air Force Sergeant Association Chapter 1460. Testifies in support of HB 2795.
- 358 Marc Lucca Resident, Polk County. Submits and summarizes written testimony in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT S**).

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- 023 Staff Sergeant Luke Wilson Veteran, Oregon Resident. Testifies in support of HB 2795.

**The following written testimony is submitted for the record without public testimony:**

- Lorena Navarez Citizen, City of Sandy. Submits written testimony in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT T**).
- Reni Nowling Resident, City of Portland. Submits written testimony in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT U**).
- Jim Stembridge Committee Administrator. Submits written testimony on behalf of Elfriede Plumondore in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT V**).
- Sue Robertson Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Submits written testimony in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT W**).
- Sue Robertson Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Submits written testimony in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT X**).
- Sue Robertson Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Submits written testimony on behalf of the Coalition of Troop Support Board Members in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT Y**).
- Linda Christy Deputy Director, Coalition of Troop Support. Submits written testimony on behalf of Lee Rogers in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT Z**).
- Jim Stembridge Committee Administrator. Submits written testimony on behalf of Lisa Silvey in support of HB 2795 (**EXHIBIT AA**).
- Ann Tafolla

Citizen, Oregon. Submits written testimony in support of HB 2795  
**(EXHIBIT BB).**

Lisa Wells Citizen, City of Portland. Submits written testimony in support of HB  
2795 **(EXHIBIT CC).**

059 Chair Nelson Closes the public hearing on HB 2795.

**The following written testimony is submitted for the record without public testimony:**

Walter Crews Legislative Representative, Non Commissioned Officers Association.  
Submits written testimony in opposition to HB 3213 **(EXHIBIT DD).**

062 Chair Nelson Adjourns the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

### **EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

- A. **HB 2878, written testimony, Rachel Crawford, 1 p**
- B. **HB 2878, written testimony, Linda Christy, 1 p**
- C. **HB 2878, written testimony, Sue Robertson, 3 pp**
- D. **HB 2739, written testimony, Rachel Crawford, 2 pp**
- E. **HB 2739, written testimony of Cliff Robertson, Sue Robertson, 1 p**
- F. **HB 2739, written testimony, Sue Robertson, 2 pp**
  
- N. **HB 2795, written testimony, Clay Kesterson, 3 pp**
- O. **HB 2795, written testimony, Ron Anderson, 2 pp**
- P. **HB 2795, written testimony, Paula Brown, 2 pp**
- Q. **HB 2795, written testimony, J.J Brown, 3 pp**
- R. **HB 2795, written testimony, Chyla Lulay, 2 pp**
- S. **HB 2795, written testimony, Marc Lucca, 2 pp**

**The following written testimony is submitted for the record without public testimony:**

- G. **HB 2878, written testimony, Lorena Navarez, 2 pp**
- H. **HB 2878, written testimony of Coalition of Troop Support Board Members, Sue Robertson,  
3 pp**
- I. **HB 2878, written testimony, Sue Robertson, 4 pp**
- J. **HB 2878, written testimony, Ann Tafolla, 1 p**
- K. **HB 2878, written testimony, Lisa Wells, 1 p**



- L. HB 2878, written testimony, Tim Wood, 1 p
- M. HB 2739, written testimony, Tim Wood, 1 p

- T. HB 2795, written testimony, Lorena Navarez, 2 pp
- U. HB 2795, written testimony, Reni Nowling, 1 p
- V. HB 2795, written testimony of Elfriede Plumondore, staff, 2 pp
- W. HB 2795, written testimony, Sue Robertson, 3 pp
- X. HB 2795, written testimony, Sue Robertson, 4 pp
- Y. HB 2795, written testimony of Coalition of Troop Support Board Members, Sue Robertson, 3 pp
- Z. HB 2795, written testimony of Lee Rogers, Linda Christy, 1 p

AA. HB 2795, written testimony of Lisa Silvey, staff, 2 pp

BB. HB 2795, written testimony, AnnTafolla, 1 p

CC. HB 2795, written testimony, Lisa Wells, 1 p

1. DD. HB 3213, written testimony, Walter Crews, 3 pp
2. EE. HB 2739, written testimony, Lorena Navarez, 2 pp
3. FF. HB 2739, written testimony of Coalition of Troop Support Board Members, Sue Robertson, 3 pp
4. GG. HB 2739, written testimony, Sue Robertson, 4 pp
5. HH. HB 2739, written testimony, Ann Tafolla, 1 p
6. II. HB 2739, written testimony, Lisa Wells, 1 p