

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

**May 26, 2005 Hearing Room C**

**8:30 A.M. Tapes 98 - 99**

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

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

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

**Rep. Brian Boquist**

**Rep. Scott Bruun**

**Rep. Betty Komp**

**MEMBER EXCUSED:       Rep. Dave Hunt**

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

**Erin Seiler, Committee Assistant**

**MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:**

**Veterans' Issues - Informational Meeting**

**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 98, A**

002 Chair Nelson Opens the meeting at 8:39 a.m. Opens an informational meeting on Veterans' Issues.

**VETERANS' ISSUES – INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

041 Kevin O'Reilly Government Relations/Advocacy Director, Oregon Paralyzed Veterans' of America. Expresses appreciation for the work of the Committee on behalf of veterans and acknowledges the contributions of each member.

124 Chair Nelson Acknowledges the work of all of the members and thanks them for their commitment to veterans.

139 Rep. Barnhart Acknowledges the "work, enthusiasm, and tenacity" of Chair Nelson as an advocate for Oregon veterans'.

160 Jim Stembridge Committee Administrator. Commends Chair Nelson for commitment to veterans' issues.

175 Rep. Farr Speaks to personal connection to veterans' issues and why it is important to see to the well-being of all veterans.

203 Chair Nelson Commends all members for their dedication to veterans.

262 Chair Nelson Summarizes the events that have been scheduled for Memorial Day and Flag Day.

293 Bill McMichaels Project Manager, Afghan-Iraqi Freedom War Memorial Fund. Speaks to the importance of honoring veterans and acknowledges all individuals committed to veterans.

327 McMichaels Provides an update on the funding of Afghan/Iraqi Memorial Project and identifies specific individuals who have donated time, energy, and supplies to the Afghan/Iraqi Memorial.

**TAPE 99, A**

001 Chair Nelson

Thanks Mr. McMichaels for work on the Afghan/Iraqi Memorial Project.

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| 015 | McMichaels    | Explains what led to involvement with the Afghan/Iraqi Memorial Project.  |
| 028 | McMichaels    | Explains that the Afghan/Iraqi Memorial is being built with materials that will “last for 500 years.”   |
| 045 | Chair Nelson  | Acknowledges the Kesterson Family.  |
| 090 | Paula Brown   | Deputy Director, Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs (ODVA). Acknowledges the dedication of the Committee to improving the lives of veterans and expresses the appreciation of ODVA. |
| 105 | Chair Nelson  | Asks what the approval process is for locating memorials on state-owned property.   |
| 110 | Brown         | Summarizes the memorial review process utilized by the Department of Administrative Services.   |
| 165 | Mac MacDonald | Representative, Veterans’ Organizations. Speaks to the details of local Memorial Day events.  |
| 205 | Rep. Farr     | Clarifies that Memorial Day ceremonies will be held at the Capitol Mall.  |
| 241 | Harley Ray    | Legislative Chair, American Legion. Expresses appreciation for the work of the Committee.   |
| 287 | Chair Nelson  | Acknowledges Rep. Jeff Kropf efforts on behalf of Atomic Veterans’.   |
| 298 | Mike Sullivan | Lobbyist, Association of Western Pulp and Paper Workers. Expresses appreciation for the work of the Committee.  |
| 340 | Chair Nelson  | Speaks to the importance of the Youth Challenge Program.  |
| 395 | Rep. Komp     | Speaks to the importance of supporting veterans and acknowledges the commitment of Chair Nelson.  |

**TAPE 98, B**

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| 001 | Stembridge   | Asks what veterans' organization will receive the money from the "acronym fund."        |
| 010 | Rep. Farr    | Suggests that the funds be donated to the Afghan/Iraqi Memorial Fund.                   |
| 030 | Chair Nelson | Closes the informational meeting on Veterans' Issues. Adjourns the meeting at 9:38 a.m. |

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**No Exhibits**