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House Passes Bill to Honor Fallen Oregon Veterans

HB 3658 creates a medal given to Oregon's Gold Star families

SALEM – The Oregon House today passed HB 3658, which creates a medal honoring Oregon soldiers who have died as a result of their military service. This bill results from the collective work of Rep. Brad Witt (D-Clatskanie) and Rep. Dave Hunt (D-Clackamas County), along with Rep. Sal Esquivel (R-Medford)

"This medal is one tangible way that we as a state can thank Gold Star families for the sacrifices they have made for Oregon and America," said Rep. Witt. "It's time for our state to show our gratitude for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our state and our nation."

There is no current award given to Oregon's Gold Star families; HB 3658 will change that. The commission established in HB 3658 will create a medal and design a ceremony to present the award to next of kin. The name of the medal will be decided by the commission, which is headed by Oregon's Adjutant General.

"This medal is an important means to honor Oregonians who have paid the ultimate price in defense of our country and show thanks to their families," said Rep. Hunt.

The bill now moves to the Senate for consideration.

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