

---

## Transportation Committee

---

### HJM 4000

**Brief Description:** Requesting that Interstate 5 be named the "Purple Heart Trail."

**Sponsors:** Representatives Hayes, Seaquist, MacEwen, Rodne, Orwall, Zeiger and Shea.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Brief Summary of Bill</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Requests that the Washington State Transportation Commission name Interstate 5 from the Canadian border to the Oregon state line the "Purple Heart Trail."</li></ul>
--



**Hearing Date:** 1/29/13

**Staff:** Alyssa Ball (786-7140).

**Background:**

The Purple Heart Medal is the nation's oldest military medal and is awarded to members of the armed services who have been wounded or killed in action. The Purple Heart Trail was established in 1992 by the Military Order of the Purple Heart for the purpose of creating a symbolic and honorary system of roads, highways, bridges, and other monuments that give tribute to the men and women who have been awarded the Purple Heart. The Purple Heart Trail originates at a monument in Mount Vernon, Virginia. The format varies between states, but sections of the trail have been designated in 45 states and Guam.

The Washington State Transportation Commission (Commission) is responsible for naming state transportation facilities, including highways and bridges. The Commission's policy states: "a naming is done in a thorough and deliberative manner to honor and institute an enduring memory of a person or group of people who have contributed significantly to the well-being of the state or nation and with the widespread support of the people from the area in which the facility is located."

---

*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

Upon passage of a joint memorial requesting the naming of a facility, the Commission holds a public hearing prior to taking action. After the Commission takes final action, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) designs and installs the appropriate signs.

**Summary of Bill:**

The memorial requests that Interstate 5 from the Canadian border to the Oregon state line be named the “Purple Heart Trail” to honor the service and sacrifice of all who have been killed in action or wounded in combat. Copies of the memorial are to be forwarded to the Secretary of Transportation, the Washington State Transportation Commission, and the WSDOT.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.