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**HOUSE BILL 1250**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2021 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Orcutt, Ryu, Boehnke, Dufault, and Riccelli

Read first time 01/18/21. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

1 AN ACT Relating to designating Washington a purple heart state;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 1.20 RCW; adding a new section to  
3 chapter 38.40 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.60A RCW; adding  
4 a new section to chapter 47.04 RCW; and creating a new section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Washington state is grateful to be  
7 home to multitudes of United States armed forces members, veterans,  
8 and their families that have made the choice to protect freedom and  
9 our country.

10 (2) The purple heart medal is the oldest United States military  
11 decoration, dating back to 1782 when our state's namesake general  
12 George Washington created the badge of military merit to recognize  
13 heroic acts by his troops during the revolutionary war. Based on this  
14 example, the purple heart medal was created on George Washington's  
15 two hundredth birthday, February 22, 1932, and was made available for  
16 recognition of meritorious acts that occurred during World War I.

17 (3) Elizabeth Will designed the award to be a heart shaped medal  
18 with a profile image of general Washington that hangs from a purple  
19 ribbon.

1 (4) The purple heart medal is now presented to those members of  
2 the armed services who are killed or wounded in action as the result  
3 of an act of an enemy of the United States or in military combat.

4 (5) The state designated August 7th as purple heart recipient  
5 recognition day.

6 (6) The state offers a distinctive license plate for purple heart  
7 recipients.

8 (7) The state has multiple counties, cities, and locations that  
9 recognize portions of the transportation system as part of the purple  
10 heart trail.

11 (8) The designation of Washington as a purple heart state  
12 authorizes state agencies to honor purple heart recipients and  
13 recognize and proclaim the state as a purple heart state.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 1.20 RCW  
15 to read as follows:

16 Washington state is designated a purple heart state that honors  
17 people who have received the purple heart award.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 38.40  
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 Any state agency operating pursuant to this chapter is authorized  
21 to erect signs recognizing that Washington state is a purple heart  
22 state as designated in section 2 of this act. State agencies are  
23 authorized to accept gifts or donations to assist efforts related to  
24 Washington state being a purple heart state.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.60A  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 The department is authorized to erect signs recognizing that  
28 Washington state is a purple heart state as designated in section 2  
29 of this act. The department is authorized to accept gifts or  
30 donations to assist efforts related to Washington state being a  
31 purple heart state.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 47.04  
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 The department is authorized to erect signs as part of the  
35 transportation system recognizing that Washington state is a purple  
36 heart state as designated in section 2 of this act, especially at

1 entry points to the state. The department is authorized to accept  
2 gifts or donations to assist efforts related to Washington state  
3 being a purple heart state.

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