

HOUSE BILL REPORT

ESJM 8001

As Passed House

April 8, 1997

Brief Description: Petitioning for a plaque honoring veterans dying from war-related injuries received in the southeast Asia theater of operations.

Sponsors: Senators Hargrove, McCaslin, Snyder, Patterson and Oke.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Government Administration: 3/25/97 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 4/8/97, 97-0.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 12 members: Representatives D. Schmidt, Chairman; D. Sommers, Vice Chairman; Scott, Ranking Minority Member; Gardner, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Doumit; Dunn; Dunshee; Reams; Smith; L. Thomas; Wensman and Wolfe.

Staff: Bronwyn Mauldin (786-7093).

Background: In 1984, legislation was enacted authorizing the design and placement of a memorial on the capitol campus honoring Washington State residents who died or are missing in action— in the southeast Asia theater of operations. This memorial, commonly known as the Vietnam Memorial, was dedicated in May 1987.

Summary of Bill: The Legislature requests that the Governor, in consultation with the directors of Veterans Affairs and General Administration and with the state's Vietnam veterans' organizations, place a plaque on the Vietnam Memorial honoring those veterans who died from war-related injuries received in the southeast Asia theater of operations.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Testimony For: Many Washington veterans have not been honored because their deaths occurred outside of the parameters for inclusion on the Vietnam memorial.

Loss and death resulting from war-related injuries are no less than combat casualties.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: Senator Hargrove, prime sponsor; John Lee, Deputy Director, Dept. of Veterans Affairs; and Roger Welles, Veterans Legislation Coalition.