
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8003

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Prentice, Litzow, Swecker, Murray, Carrell, Kohl-Welles,
Keiser, and Conway

1 TO THE HONORABLE PAULA HAMMOND, SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, AND TO
2 THE WASHINGTON STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, AND TO THE WASHINGTON
3 STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:

4 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
5 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
6 represent and petition as follows:

7 WHEREAS, The Purple Heart medal is the oldest military medal or
8 decoration presented by the United States to a member of the armed
9 services, dating to 1782 when General George Washington originally
10 created the medal as the Badge of Military Merit; and

11 WHEREAS, The Purple Heart medal is presented to those members of
12 the armed services who are wounded in combat or killed in action; and

13 WHEREAS, Since the commencement of World War II, the Purple Heart
14 medal has been presented to more than 500,000 members of the armed
15 services who have been killed in action, and to almost 1,000,000 men
16 and women wounded in combat; and

17 WHEREAS, A high percentage of those killed in action or wounded in
18 combat are or were residents of Washington State who served with
19 distinction; and

1 WHEREAS, The Purple Heart Trail is a symbolic and honorary system
2 of roads, highways, bridges, and other monuments that provide a tribute
3 to the men and women who have been awarded the Purple Heart medal. The
4 Purple Heart Trail creates a visual reminder to those who use the
5 roads, highways, and bridges that others have paid a high price for
6 their freedom to live and travel in a free society;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
8 Washington State Transportation Commission commence proceedings to name
9 Interstate 5 from the Canadian border to the Oregon state line the
10 "Purple Heart Trail" to honor the service and sacrifices of all who
11 have been killed in action or wounded in combat.

12 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
13 transmitted to the Honorable Paula Hammond, Secretary of
14 Transportation, the Washington State Transportation Commission, and the
15 Washington State Department of Transportation.

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