
Transportation Committee

HJM 4007

Brief Description: Requesting that the Interstate 5 bridges over the Nisqually River be named for and recognize the veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

Sponsors: Representatives Muri, Ryu, Appleton, Sells, Kilduff, Lovick and Barkis.

<p style="text-align: center;">Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requests that the Interstate 5 bridges over the Nisqually River be named for and recognize the veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.
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Hearing Date: 2/1/17

Staff: Alyssa Ball (786-7140).

Background:

The Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) is responsible for naming state transportation facilities, including highways and bridges. The WSTC'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." In order for the WSTC to consider a proposal, the requesting entity must provide sufficient evidence indicating community support and acceptance of the proposal. This evidence can include a letter or support from the state or federal legislator representing the area encompassing the facility to be renamed. Other evidence that can provide proof of community support includes a resolution passed by other elected bodies in the impacted area, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) support, and supportive action from a local organization such as a chamber of commerce.

Upon passage of a joint memorial requesting the naming of a facility, the WSTC holds a public hearing prior to taking action. After the WSTC takes final action, the WSDOT designs and installs the appropriate signs.

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.

Summary of Bill:

The bill requests that the WSTC commence proceedings to name the northbound Interstate 5 bridge over the Nisqually River the "Afghanistan Veterans Bridge" and the southbound bridge the "Iraq Veterans Bridge."

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 24, 2017.