

Enrolled
Senate Joint Memorial 12

Sponsored by Senator BOQUIST (at the request of James Parks)

To the President of the United States and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas there are flags for all branches of the Armed Forces of the United States and there is a flag for prisoners of war and those missing in action, but there is no flag to honor the millions of former military personnel who have served our nation; and

Whereas a flag is a symbol of recognition for a group or an ideal; and

Whereas veterans compose a group, certainly represent an ideal and surely deserve their own symbol; and

Whereas the estimated 20,400,000 veterans, affiliated and unaffiliated with veterans' organizations, who have served in our nation's military compose a significant portion of our nation's population; and

Whereas displaying and flying a Veterans Remembered Flag would validate the lives of millions of individuals who have served our country in times of war, peace and national crisis; and

Whereas a Veterans Remembered Flag would memorialize and honor past, present and future veterans and provide an enduring symbol to support tomorrow's veterans today; and

Whereas displaying and flying a Veterans Remembered Flag would fill the need for a flag honoring all veterans who have served in our nation's armed forces; and

Whereas the symbolism of this unique flag's design would be all-inclusive, would pay respect to all branches of the military and to the history of our nation and would honor those who have lived, and died, serving our nation; and

Whereas the design of the flag honors the founding of our nation through the 13 stars that emanate from the hoist of the flag and march to the large red star that represents our nation and the five branches of our nation's military, the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marines and the Coast Guard; and

Whereas the white star on the flag indicates a veteran's dedication to service; and

Whereas the blue star on the flag honors all the men and women who have served in our nation's military; and

Whereas the central gold star on the flag memorializes those who fell defending our nation; and

Whereas the blue stripe that bears the title of the flag honors the loyalty of veterans to our nation, flag and government; and

Whereas the green field on the flag represents the hallowed ground where fallen veterans rest eternally; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

(1) That we, your memorialists of the Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly, urge the Congress of the United States of America to support establishment of a Veterans Remembered Flag to honor our nation's veterans.

(2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by Senate March 2, 2011

Robert Taylor, Secretary of Senate

Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Adopted by House April 21, 2011

Bruce Hanna, Speaker of House

Arnie Roblan, Speaker of House