
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4016

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2020 Regular Session

By Representatives Riccelli, Volz, Graham, Fey, Lovick, Valdez, Maycumber, Leavitt, Tarleton, Shea, and Ormsby

Read first time 01/20/20. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

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

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

7 WHEREAS, The term Gold Star derives its origin from World War I
8 when mothers of service members lost during the war came together to
9 support one another in their grief. The name is derived from the gold
10 star banner families hung in their windows allowing members of the
11 community to know the price the family paid in the cause of freedom;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The term Gold Star has been expanded over the years to
14 include all immediate family members left with the heavy burden of
15 loss upon the death of a son or daughter, a spouse, a mother, a
16 father, or a sibling while serving in the nation's armed forces; and

17 WHEREAS, The Eastern Washington Veterans Task Force is the
18 state's oldest coalition of veteran support agencies whose purpose it
19 is to support the region's military and veteran communities through
20 delivery of social and support services, information awareness, and
21 advocacy, and is sponsoring this initiative in support for survivor
22 families; and

1 WHEREAS, 38 U.S.C. Sec. 2400 establishes the National Cemetery
2 Administration responsible for interment of deceased service members
3 and veterans; and

4 WHEREAS, 38 U.S.C. Sec. 2408 provides for federal grants to
5 establish, operate, and maintain state veterans cemeteries; and

6 WHEREAS, The Washington State Veterans Cemetery serves as a final
7 resting place, whose purpose is to inter and memorialize fallen
8 members of our nation's armed forces and veterans, in a national
9 shrine honoring their military service, and serves as a solemn refuge
10 to reflect on these lives that meant so much; and

11 WHEREAS, Veterans cemeteries uphold the sacred trust of honoring
12 veterans and their families with a lasting tribute that commemorates
13 their service and sacrifice to our nation; and

14 WHEREAS, State route number 902 is the primary motorway leading
15 to the Washington State Veterans Cemetery, and the last mile military
16 members and veterans will journey to their final repose, accompanied
17 by those closest to them; and

18 WHEREAS, It is of highest importance to honor the lives of those
19 who made the ultimate sacrifice, keeping their memory alive, and
20 recognizing the surviving families left behind who visit our Eastern
21 Washington State Veterans Cemetery;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
23 Washington State Transportation Commission commence proceedings to
24 name state route number 902 as the Gold Star Memorial Highway.

25 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
26 transmitted to the Washington State Transportation Commission, the
27 Honorable Roger Millar, Secretary of Transportation, and the
28 Washington State Department of Transportation.

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