## **House Concurrent Resolution 29**

Sponsored by Representative MEEK

## **SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Recognizes and honors Sergeant First Class Richard Joseph Henkes II (1973-2006) for his service to his country.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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2	Whereas Ser	geant First	Class Richard	Joseph	Henkes	II was	born	on	${\bf December}$	19,	1973,	and

he grew up in Boring, Oregon; and

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Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes graduated from Clackamas High School in 1992, where he participated in wrestling and track and field; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes was an avid snowboarder, and he could often be found on the side of a mountain with friends or family; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes first enlisted in the United States Army in 1992, then served in the National Guard for several years before reenlisting in the regular Army; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes followed in a family tradition, as his father served in the United States Air Force, both his grandfathers served in the Army during World War II and his great-grandfather was a veteran of World War I; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes loved to have fun and was often the jokester at family gatherings, but he was very serious about being a soldier and he had a keen sense of responsibility and duty; and

Whereas in 2006 Sergeant First Class Henkes deployed to Iraq for the second time and was attached to Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes was very proud to serve his country, and he believed in the mission in Iraq and that he was doing something for the greater good; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes was an outstanding soldier and a tough but fair noncommissioned officer who was widely loved and respected; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes cared deeply about the soldiers he led, and he was described as the "father" of his platoon; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes was noted for his kindness and decency, and he often gave food, water and first aid to Iraqi children; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes was killed in action on September 3, 2006, when an improvised explosive device was detonated near his vehicle; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes's courage and selfless devotion to duty, often in the midst of harrowing combat conditions, exemplified the spirit and values of the United States Army; and

Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes's many awards and decorations include the Bronze Star,

1	Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal
2	National Defense Service Medal and Air Assault Badge; and
3	Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes was laid to rest at Willamette National Cemetery; and
4	Whereas Sergeant First Class Henkes is greatly missed by his family and friends; now, therefore
5	Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:
6	That we, the members of the Eightieth Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor Sergeant Firs
7	Class Richard Joseph Henkes II for his service to his country.