



**OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**Co-Speaker Bruce Hanna**  
**Representative Tim Freeman**  
**NEWS**

**For Immediate Release**

June 6, 2011

**Contact: Steve Lindsley**

(503) 986-1210 (office)

(503) 729-5439 (cell)

**OREGON HOUSE PASSES BILL TO HELP  
ESTABLISH ROSEBURG VETERANS HOME**

SALEM—The Oregon House today passed House Bill 2578, that would direct the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs to establish a third Oregon Veterans' Home in Roseburg. The bill was sponsored by Co-Speaker Bruce Hanna (R-Roseburg), Co-Speaker Arnie Roblan (D-Coos Bay), and Representative Tim Freeman (R-Roseburg).

“Years ago, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs started working with the Legislature to assure that we had sufficient facilities for retiring Oregon Veterans,” said Freeman. “Currently there is a need for 900 licensed nursing beds for veterans in Oregon, and the state is woefully short in meeting that need. Roseburg’s overwhelming community support for veterans makes this an excellent place for Oregon’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Veteran’s Home.”

“The price soldiers pay is high, and the investment we make in them and their future must be strong,” said Hanna. “I’m so pleased to see that my colleagues overwhelmingly supported this bill. The local community has stepped up to the plate and is prepared to partner with the state to get this done. This is exactly the type of regionalized support veterans throughout Oregon deserve.”

Oregon currently has a Veterans' Home in The Dalles and another planned for Lebanon. The bill passed 59-0, and now moves to the Senate for consideration.

###