SR 902 Naming Proposal
Gold Star Memorial Highway
Rudy Lopez
Eastern Washington Veterans Task Force
America’s Finest – Why They Serve

- Military Service Is Not For Everyone
- Personal & Family Sacrifice
- Part of Something Larger Than Ones self
- Core Values
- WWII 12%... Today <1% Serve
- Warrior Ethos
- Veterans Perpetual Commitment This Ethos
History of Gold Star Family Designation

• WWI – families displayed service flags featuring blue star for each immediate family member serving in the Armed Forces
History of Gold Star Family Designation

• The star’s color would be changed to gold if the family lost a loved one in the war
• Individual family members began to be referred to as “Gold Star Wives,” “Gold Star Mothers,” etc.
Gold Star Mother’s Day

Sunday September 27, 2020
Mr. John Lee
Director, Westcare Puget Sound (retired)
Washington Department of Veterans Affairs, Director (retired)
Command Sergeant Major, US Army (retired)
Keirsten Lyons
Washington State Fallen Heroes Project
Mother to SGT Jacob Hess, USMC