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2012 SESSION S VETERANS' & MILITARY
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## Senate Committee on Veterans and Milita SUBMITTED BY: Val Conley

## HB 4064

**ODVA and BOLI Commissioner – Supporting Veterans through Partnership** 

Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Val Conley and I am the Deputy Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs. I am here today in support of HB 4064.

During the 2009 and 2011 Legislative Sessions, ODVA supported concepts and bills that made it easier for Oregon service members and veterans to seek remedy should their employers violate federal employment law.

Since then, ODVA and BOLI have worked together and developed an effective partnership. This partnership is completely to the advantage of veterans and service members. It ensures that when there is a problem with service member employment rights, BOLI and ODVA are combining their resources, addressing issues quickly and making sure service members receive the rights and benefits they have earned through their honorable service.

To date, there have been 15 referrals to ODVA, of which about half have elected to take advantage their federal veteran benefits.

From ODVA's perspective, HB 4064 is a good bill that codifies ODVA and BOLI's commitment to serving veterans and ensures our partnership for the future.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill and I am happy to answer any questions.