

B-Engrossed
House Bill 2891

Ordered by the House June 22
Including House Amendments dated April 11 and June 22

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

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.

Establishes [*Oregon*] Department of Veterans' Affairs [*Advisory Committee*] **Veteran Services Grant Fund.**

Authorizes Department of Veterans' Affairs[, *with approval of majority of members of Advisory Committee,*] to make grants from fund for purposes that benefit veterans.

Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to department to make grants that benefit veterans.
Requires department to adopt rules, including rules that prescribe eligibility requirements for grants.

Limits biennial expenditures for making and administering grants from certain lottery moneys received by department.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Department of Veterans' Affairs; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Veterans' Affairs Veteran Services Grant Fund is**
5 **established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest**
6 **earned by the Department of Veterans' Affairs Veteran Services Grant Fund shall be cred-**
7 **ited to the fund. The Department of Veterans' Affairs Veteran Services Grant Fund shall**
8 **consist of moneys transferred to the fund from the Veterans' Department of Veterans' Af-**
9 **airs Dedicated Lottery Fund established under section 3, chapter __, Oregon Laws 2017**
10 **(Enrolled Senate Bill 140). Moneys in the Department of Veterans' Affairs Veteran Services**
11 **Grant Fund are continuously appropriated to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for the**
12 **purposes established under this section.**

13 **(2) The Department of Veterans' Affairs may award grants in the amount of \$25,000 to**
14 **\$250,000 per recipient from the Department of Veterans' Affairs Veteran Services Grant**
15 **Fund for the following purposes:**

16 **(a) Expanding outreach to veterans;**

17 **(b) Expanding services for veterans;**

18 **(c) Promoting improved mental health care for veterans;**

19 **(d) Promoting improved physical health care for veterans;**

20 **(e) Promoting housing security for veterans;**

21 **(f) Promoting employment opportunities and stability for veterans;**

22 **(g) Promoting education and training opportunities for veterans;**

23 **(h) Promoting transportation accessibility and availability for veterans;**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (i) Promoting veterans' organizations that provide critical services for veterans within a
2 community or region or on a statewide basis; and

3 (j) Supporting existing programs identified by the Advisory Committee appointed under
4 ORS 406.210 in accordance with Article XV, section 4f, of the Oregon Constitution.

5 (3) The department, with the advice of the Advisory Committee, shall adopt rules neces-
6 sary to carry out the provisions of this section. The rules shall include, but are not limited
7 to, requirements for eligibility for grants from the Department of Veterans' Affairs Veteran
8 Services Grant Fund.

9 **SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the amount of \$555,000
10 is established for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, as the maximum limit for payment of
11 expenses from lottery moneys allocated from the veterans' services fund created under Ar-
12 ticle XV, section 4f, of the Oregon Constitution, to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for
13 the purpose of making and administering grants from the Department of Veterans' Affairs
14 Veteran Services Grant Fund established under section 1 of this 2017 Act.

15 **SECTION 3.** This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
16 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect
17 on its passage.

18 _____