

HB 2530 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates the Task Force on Innovative Housing Strategies for Veterans. Directs the Task Force to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2020. Sunsets on December 31, 2020. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

NOTE - measure has subsequent referral to Committee on Ways and Means

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to data presented to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the State of Oregon had an estimated 13,953 persons experiencing homelessness in January 2017. Of those, 1,251 were veterans experiencing homelessness. Since that time, homelessness among military veterans has increased by nine percent, to 1,363 homeless veterans, according to HUD numbers from November 2018.

House Bill 2530 creates an 11-member Task Force on Innovative Housing Strategies for Veterans, to be staffed jointly by the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs and Oregon Housing and Community Services Department. The Task Force is directed to study and make recommendations on innovative housing strategies for homeless and low-income veterans and their families, which may include establishment of a housing purchasing authority or direct purchase by the state of vacant housing developments to provide veteran housing. The Task Force is directed to report to legislative committees on veterans' affairs and housing by September 15, 2020.