

**HB 3163 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness**

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**Prepared By:** Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 3/19, 4/2

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires the Department of Veterans' Affairs, as part of its biennial agency request budget, to request no less than the minimum required funding level. Requires Governor's budget to fund the Department at no less than the minimum required level. Requires the Legislative Assembly to appropriate an amount from the General Fund to the Department that is no less than the minimum required funding level. Outlines economic conditions under which minimum funding level requirements would not apply.

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

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Budgetary considerations for the Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Ensure proper use of dedicated Lottery Fund moneys

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), established by the Legislative Assembly in 1945, is the state's agency responsible for programs and benefits of citizens who are veterans of the United States armed services, as well as their dependents and survivors.

The Governor's recommended budget for ODVA for the 2019-21 biennium calls for total funds of \$136,986,655. This is broken out into four program areas: \$87,345,276 to fund the two veterans' homes in Lebanon and The Dalles; \$28,106,598 for veteran services; \$17,783,914 for the veterans' home loan program; and \$3,750,867 for aging veterans services.