

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION****Measure: SB 1542**

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2020 Regular Session  
Legislative Fiscal Office

***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed  
Versions are Considered Official***

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**Measure Description:**

Dedicates portion of State Capitol State Park to Vietnam War memorial to be funded and constructed by qualified nonprofit corporation recognized and acknowledged by Director of Veterans' Affairs.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)

**Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

**Analysis:**

SB 1542 dedicates the southwest corner of the State Capitol State Park for a Vietnam War Memorial. The bill specifies that the Memorial will be funded and constructed by an unspecified nonprofit corporation to be recognized and acknowledged by the Director of Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs. In addition, the bill directs the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) to maintain the finished Memorial. The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect on passage. Existing administrative rules require entities interested in sponsoring honorary features in the State Capitol State Park to apply to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Director. Construction or installation of a memorial may not begin until the State Parks and Recreation Commission grants approval and the applicant has obtained all necessary permits. This fiscal analysis assumes the nonprofit corporation will follow this process.

**Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA)**

The bill requires ODVA to maintain the finished Memorial. However, under current practice the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department provides maintenance for the Capitol Park State Park. Existing administrative rules governing memorials within the Capitol State Park require an amount equal to 15% of the project replacement value to be deposited in the Recognition and Honorary Feature Maintenance Trust Fund for maintenance and repair. Although the bill directs ODVA to maintain the finished Memorial, it is unclear whether ODVA or the unspecified nonprofit will be responsible for covering this amount. The full cost of the design, fabrication, and installation of the proposed Memorial cannot be quantified until the nonprofit is identified to execute the design, fabrication, and installation of the Memorial. However, as a point of reference, the World War II Memorial, finished in 2014, located in the northwest corner of the Oregon Capitol State Park, cost approximately \$1.22 million to complete. Assuming the Vietnam War Memorial proposed by nonprofit will have a comparable price tag, ODVA or the nonprofit will need approximately \$180,000 to meet the obligation to maintain the finished Memorial. OPRD and ODVA currently share the maintenance of the World War II Memorial, under an interagency agreement. OPRD performs routine maintenance, and all major maintenance of the World War II Memorial is carried out by ODVA.

**Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)**

OPRD reports that the proposed location of the Memorial is near the Fuchsia Bed, a historic landscape bed registered on the National Historic Landscape Plan. If placement of the proposed Memorial requires mitigation efforts to protect the historic bed (e.g. redesign of the bed or surrounding areas, tree removal, re-routing or repair of irrigation lines, and altered concrete work), OPRD estimates the cost of a contractor to complete this work to be approximately \$50,000. Again, it is unclear whether OPRD or the unspecified nonprofit will be responsible for covering this expense.