

HB 2141 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Management

Action Date: 03/02/21

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.
(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 6-0-0-0

Yeas: 6 - Evans, Grayber, Lewis, Meek, Wallan, Wright

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Cassie Passon, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 1/26, 2/23, 3/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Removes sunset to continue the Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Needs of student veterans during COVID-19 pandemic; number assisted so far
- Original sunset date in 2022; data collection; potential influence of pandemic on data; need to continue data collection
- Program funding

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Removes sunset from Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program.

BACKGROUND:

The Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program was created by the Oregon Legislative Assembly during the 2019 legislative session with the passage of House Bill 2201 to support student veterans with grants up to \$5,000 who are unable to complete an academic program on time because a required course is not available. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for educational assistance for student veterans has been extremely high. The program is currently scheduled to sunset January 2, 2022.

House Bill 2141 A removes the sunset to continue the Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program.