

# House Bill 2239

Sponsored by Representative WILDE (Presession filed.)

## 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 **as introduced**.

Directs each judicial district to ensure veterans who are criminal defendants have access to veterans' court programs. Authorizes court to grant motion dismissing charges after completion of veterans' court program when in interests of justice.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to court programs for veterans.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) Each judicial district shall ensure that any veteran charged with a crime**  
5 **punishable by a sentence of probation has access to a court program specifically designed to**  
6 **address the needs of veterans. The access may include:**

7 (a) **Directly providing a veterans' court within the judicial district; or**

8 (b) **Allowing the veteran to remotely participate in a centralized veterans' court or a**  
9 **veterans' court in another judicial district.**

10 (2)(a) **Notwithstanding any other provision of law, at the successful completion of any**  
11 **veterans' court program, the veteran defendant may make a motion for dismissal of the**  
12 **charges.**

13 (b) **Prior to considering a motion described this subsection, the court and the prosecuting**  
14 **attorney shall ensure that the victim, if applicable, is notified and has an opportunity to be**  
15 **heard at a hearing on the motion.**

16 (c) **The court may grant a motion described in this subsection if, after considering any**  
17 **information provided by the prosecuting attorney, the defendant and, if applicable, the vic-**  
18 **tim, the court finds that granting the motion is in the interests of justice.**

19 (3) **As used in this section, "veteran" means a person who:**

20 (a) **Served as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the reserve compo-**  
21 **ponents of the Armed Forces of the United States or the National Guard; and**

22 (b) **Received an honorable discharge or a general discharge under honorable conditions.**  
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**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.