

HB 3421 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

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Meeting Dates: 5/9, 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires official state government commemorations of Memorial Day or Veterans Day to be held in accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 187; requires Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) to ensure public access to attend or participate in official Memorial Day and Veterans Day commemorations. Concerning these holidays, directs ODVA Director to provide a minimum 30-day notice to Legislative Assembly presiding officers of both houses if an official ceremony or event will be held on a day other than the legal holiday, to the extent possible. Requires ODVA Director to inform all state agencies, in advance of Memorial Day and Veterans Day commemorations, the Legislative Assembly expectation for all state-owned and maintained veterans' facilities, veterans' and war memorials be clean and in good repair.

Fiscal Impact: Minimal Fiscal Impact

Revenue Impact: No Revenue Impact

House Chamber Vote: Ayes, 43; Excused, 17

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Alignment of Memorial Day and Veterans Day commemorations with legal holidays
- Condition of state-owned veterans' facilities, veterans' and war memorials in Oregon for days of events and commemoration

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Veteran's Day is a holiday honoring all Veterans for their historical and present-day sacrifices in times of war and peace. Memorial Day commemorates individuals who sacrificed their lives while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

In addition to Veterans Day and Memorial Day, Oregon has honored the historical and present-day service and sacrifice of Veterans through additional legally designated, commemorative days, including: Oregon POW/MIA Recognition Day; Oregon Purple Heart Recognition Day; Korean War Veterans Honor Day; Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day; and Armed Forces Day.

HB 3421 A requires the Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs to ensure that all state-owned and/or state-maintained veterans' facilities, memorials for honoring veterans, and war memorials are clean and in good condition for Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and commemorative events of these holidays. The measure establishes a minimum 30-day advance notice of commemorative event plans to the Legislative Assembly.