

HB 2845 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Transportation

Meeting Dates: 2/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates the 2025 Oregon Veterans' Services Supplemental Investments Initiative

Detailed Summary

- Appropriates no less than \$10,000,000 from the General Fund as measured in 2015 and adjusted for inflation to the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA).
- Creates eleven full-time positions at ODVA.
- Clarifies that the Director of ODVA shall be veteran who received a discharge or release under other than dishonorable conditions.
- Allows, with approval by the Governor, the Director of ODVA to hire a Deputy Director and establishes terms of the appointment.
- Requires ODVA to develop and implement pilot programs for suicide prevention and workforce prevention and award grants to entities involved with pairing suicide prevention and housing with workforce training.
- Requires ODVA to develop criteria for entities that provide suicide prevention and workforce training and preparation; establish rules, policies, and procedures for veterans to apply to these programs; and prioritize awarding grants to entities that provide opportunities for veterans to participate in the veterans' local communities.
- Allows ODVA to accept gifts, grants, and donations and use money in the Veterans Service Fund to development, implement and maintain the pilot programs.
- Authorizes ODVA to adopt rules to implement the provisions of the pilot programs.
- Requires the Oregon Department of Transportation to accept an identification card issued by the Department of Defense or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as proof of identity for non-Real ID licenses, permits, and identification.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The mission of the ODVA is to honor and serve all Oregon veterans and their families by aligning and delivering earned benefits and services that enhance and improve their lives in recognition of their service to our nation. There are an estimated 266,690 veterans living in Oregon, having served across five major war eras.