

HB 2386 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

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Meeting Dates: 3/6, 3/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure allows the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs to adopt rules to implement provisions covering unclaimed cremated remains of veterans or their spouses, dependents, or survivors. Veterans' remains coordinators or county veterans' service officers are directed to carry out these duties in accordance with Department-adopted rules.

Fiscal impact: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue impact: No revenue impact

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 58; Nays, 0

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Instances of cremated remains that have been found
- Rulemaking process and procedural fix
- Repatriation ceremonies

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2147 (2023) directed counties to designate a veterans' remains coordinator to verify and assist with the interment of unclaimed cremated remains of a veteran or their spouse, dependent, or survivor. During the public hearing on House Bill 2386, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) testified that although House Bill 2147 (2023) is now in effect, the Department of Justice identified that ODVA does not have statutory authority to implement rules for it.

House Bill 2386 would provide ODVA the authority to implement the provisions of House Bill 2147 (2023).