

# House Bill 2856

Sponsored by Representative EVANS (Pre-session 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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Tells ODVA to give grants to offset costs that groups incur but did not expect to incur in repurposing buildings for veteran housing. Creates a fund with lottery moneys to fund the grants. (Flesch Readability Score: 67.0).

Directs the Department of Veterans' Affairs to provide grants to nonprofit organizations to offset unexpected increases in costs in repurposing buildings for veteran housing and housing programs.

Establishes the Veterans Housing Construction Cost Reduction Fund. Directs the State Treasury to transfer, each biennium, moneys from the Veterans' Department of Veterans' Affairs Dedicated Lottery Fund to the Veterans Housing Construction Cost Reduction Fund to be used by the department to provide the grants.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to veteran housing services.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall award one-time grants to**  
5 **nonprofit organizations that repurpose buildings to be used for housing or housing programs**  
6 **for veterans. Housing may include temporary, short-term or long-term housing.**

7 **(2) A nonprofit organization is eligible to receive a grant if:**

8 **(a) The nonprofit organization is repurposing a building to be used to provide housing or**  
9 **housing programs for veterans;**

10 **(b) The nonprofit organization incurs an unexpected increase in costs in repurposing the**  
11 **building; and**

12 **(c) The building is:**

13 **(A) Formerly a public building;**

14 **(B) Historically significant; or**

15 **(C) Uniquely located to provide housing or housing programs for veterans.**

16 **(3) Grant moneys awarded under this section must be used to offset unexpected increases**  
17 **in costs incurred by a nonprofit organization in repurposing a building for housing or housing**  
18 **programs for veterans.**

19 **(4) The department may adopt rules for the implementation of the provisions of this**  
20 **section and the administration of grants, including eligibility requirements for grant recipi-**  
21 **ents.**

22 **SECTION 2. (1) The Veterans Housing Construction Cost Reduction Fund is established**  
23 **in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. The Veterans Housing**  
24 **Construction Cost Reduction Fund consists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or**  
25 **transferred to the fund by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise and any donations or**  
26 **grants received for the purpose of the fund.**

**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.

1       **(2) Moneys in the Veterans Housing Construction Cost Reduction Fund are continuously**  
2 **appropriated to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for the purpose of providing grants**  
3 **under section 1 of this 2025 Act.**

4       **(3) Each biennium, the State Treasury shall transfer 1.5 percent of the moneys in the**  
5 **Veterans' Department of Veterans' Affairs Dedicated Lottery Fund established under ORS**  
6 **406.144 from the Veterans' Department of Veterans' Affairs Dedicated Lottery Fund to the**  
7 **Veterans Housing Construction Cost Reduction Fund.**

8       **(4) Moneys in the Veterans Housing Construction Cost Reduction Fund may be used only**  
9 **for purposes for which moneys in the Veterans' Services Fund established under ORS 406.140**  
10 **may be used under ORS 406.140 and Article XV, section 4f, of the Oregon Constitution.**

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