

# House Bill 2906

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: Creates a task force on housing strategies for veterans. Makes the task force do a study on housing strategies for veterans and submit a report on its findings. (Flesch Readability Score: 65.7).

Establishes the Task Force on Innovative Housing Strategies for Veterans. Directs the task force to study innovative housing strategies for veterans and submit its findings to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to housing and veterans' affairs not later than September 15, 2026.

Sunset on January 2, 2027.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to housing for veterans; and declaring an emergency.

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

**SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Innovative Housing Strategies for Veterans is established, consisting of 11 members appointed as follows:**

**(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the Senate.**

**(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among members of the House of Representatives.**

**(c) The Director of the Housing and Community Services Department shall appoint three members to represent the Housing and Community Services Department, at least two of whom shall have expertise in housing options and programs for veterans.**

**(d) The Director of Veterans' Affairs shall appoint three members, at least one of whom shall represent the Department of Veterans' Affairs and one of whom shall represent veterans' advocates.**

**(e) The Governor shall appoint three members, at least one of whom must have expertise in lending for, and development of, housing for veterans and one of whom shall represent housing advocates for veterans.**

**(2) The task force shall study and make findings regarding the following:**

**(a) Innovative housing strategies to provide housing for homeless and low income veterans and veterans' families in this state, including but not limited to the following:**

**(A) Establishment of a housing purchasing authority to acquire housing for the purpose of providing housing options for veterans; and**

**(B) Purchase by the state of vacant housing developments during times of recession or other economic downturn for the purpose of providing housing options for veterans; and**

**(b) For each of the strategies under paragraph (a) of this subsection, a viable plan for implementation, including designation of the state agency or entity that will be responsible**

**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 for administration of the strategy, identification of barriers and possible outcomes, the  
2 amount and nature of available and required financial resources, standards for veteran el-  
3 igibility and any other factor or consideration that is relevant to evaluating the feasibility  
4 and appropriateness of the strategy.

5 (3) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the  
6 transaction of business.

7 (4) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting  
8 members of the task force.

9 (5) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

10 (6) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-  
11 ment to become immediately effective.

12 (7) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson  
13 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

14 (8) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

15 (9) The task force shall submit a report, which may include recommendations for legis-  
16 lation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly with subject matter jurisdic-  
17 tion over housing and veterans' affairs no later than September 15, 2026.

18 (10) The Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Housing and Community Services De-  
19 partment shall jointly provide staff support to the task force.

20 (11) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting  
21 members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

22 (12) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not  
23 entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other  
24 expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and  
25 amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions  
26 of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the Department of Veterans'  
27 Affairs and the Housing and Community Services Department for purposes of the task force.

28 (13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist  
29 the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating  
30 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force  
31 consider necessary to perform their duties.

32 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on January 2, 2027.

33 **SECTION 3.** This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
34 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect  
35 on its passage.