

13 March 2024

TO: Chair Tran, Co-Chair Lewis, Graybar & Members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government and Veterans
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

FROM: Laurie Kimmell, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)

SUBJECT: Argument Against - HB 2537

ATTENTION: FOR ALL REVIEWING AUTHORITIES

Please accept this as my testimony for HB2537. I cannot support HB 2537 as written. This bill needs the following *amendments* and clarifications :

- a. Amend Section 1 -2. The program should have Oregon Department of Veterans (ODVA) for eligibility.
- b. Amend Section 1-2 (line 8) – Is the Veterans Waiver Program in lieu of any Veterans Administration (VA) medical care? Would VA eligible veterans not qualify?
- c. Amend Section 1 -4 to add ODVA (they should be included since they know the VA healthcare rules/guidelines and know the rules who is ineligible for VA Healthcare
- d. Amend Section 1 -4-A line 19 to add *to income eligibility* – Federal and State Income Tax Return.
- e. Amend Section 1 -4-B line 21 to add to DD form 214 *Discharge Papers and Separation Documents* and DD 215 *Correction Form*.

Thank you,
//SIGNED//
LAURIE KIMMELL, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)