

HB 4099 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Lewis

House Committee On Emergency Management and Veterans

Action Date: 02/10/26

Action: Do pass and rescind subsequent referral to Ways and Means.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Boice, Evans, Grayber, Lewis, Skarlatos, Tran, Watanabe

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Beverly Anderson, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/3, 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure creates the Task Force on Responding to Veterans in Crisis. The measure takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

Detailed Summary

For the purposes of the task force, the measure does the following:

- Requires the speaker of the House to appoint 2 nonvoting task force members and the governor to appoint at least 12 voting task force members
- Describes the qualifications for task force members
- Requires the task force to develop a proposal to ensure every Oregon county has a trained, two-person veteran crisis response team
- Provides guidance for the proposal, including how law enforcement officers can better identify veterans in crisis
- Describes how the task force should conduct business
- Requires the task force to submit a report to the legislature's interim committee related to emergency management and veterans, no later than September 15, 2026
- Requires the Department of State Police to provide staff support to the task force
- Requires all state agencies to assist the task force
- Repeals the act on December 31, 2027

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Personal example of an interaction between law enforcement and a veteran in crisis
- The task force and the creation of a veterans crisis card
- How rural law enforcement officers are trained to use the veterans crisis card

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2022, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) contracted with Oregon Health and Science University to develop and implement a comprehensive data collection system for the state's Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (MICS) program. [OHA's Oregon Mobile Crisis Intervention Services 2024 Annual Report](#) documented that in 2024, there were 25,720 MICS dispatches across the state, serving 16,414 unique individuals. OHA reported that 3 percent of the Oregonians age 18 and over served by MICS in 2024 were current or former military and/or National Guard members, and 43 percent of those served had missing or unknown information regarding their military status.