

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
<b>Vote:</b>	4 - 0 - 1
<b>Yeas:</b>	Boquist, Cowan, Schaufler, Barker
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Scott
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Jim Keller, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/3, 4/19

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Creates the Oregon Veterans' Business Enterprise Program. Appropriates moneys to the Department of Veterans' Affairs to fund the program for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Infrastructure in place within the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Impact of veteran-owned businesses in Oregon
- 75,336 veterans own businesses in Oregon
- Similar programs in other states

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** House Bill 3160 creates a new program to assist Oregon veterans by providing financial assistance for the purpose of starting a new business or expanding an existing business. The measure appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund for the new program.