74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: CARRIER:

House Committee on Transportation

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Buckley, Butler, Gilman, Read, Smith G., Tomei, Beyer

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Judith Callens, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/9, 4/23, 4/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to establish program to issue veterans' recognition registration plate to veteran or veterans' group. Directs ODOT to describe in rules documentation that constitutes proof of eligibility for each group of veterans. Requires Director of Veterans Affairs to design veterans' recognition plates in consultation with ODOT. Applies to passenger motor vehicles registered under ORS 803.420 (1) or (9) (a).

HB 3161 A

CONSENT

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Honoring veterans through veterans' recognition plates specific to their service
- Registration plate design
- ODOT programming already in place for existing veterans' groups
- Eligibility requirements

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Directs ODOT to describe in rules documentation that constitutes proof of eligibility for each group of veterans. Applies to passenger motor vehicles registered under ORS 803.420 (1) or (9) (a)—deleting application to motor homes registered under 803.420 (16) (c) or (d). Deletes ODOT's authority to design plates and requires the Director of Veterans Affairs to design veterans' recognition plates in consultation with the Department of Transportation.

BACKGROUND: Currently, each veterans group must sell or renew at least 500 vehicle registration plates per year to remain an active group plate. HB 3161A allows both active and inactive veterans group plates to meet the 500 plate requirement as one group. Additionally, the measure allows existing veterans groups, as well as any new veteran groups, to use a unique military-related decal or words on the plate to identify their group. Inactive veterans' groups may choose to become active again and would need to pay for plate manufacturing costs upfront, but no programming costs would be required. Any new veterans' groups who apply for their own plate must prepay programming costs, along with administrative and plate manufacturing costs to the Department of Transportation. HB 3161A authorizes a \$2.50 surcharge per plate for each year of registration deposited into a fund designated by each veterans' group. If no fund is designated, surcharge fee revenues are deposited with the Oregon Veterans' Home.