

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	George G., Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Verger, Morrisette
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Ilana Weinbaum, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Appropriates additional money to the Department of Human Services to be used to fund the Retired and Senior Volunteer Services Program (RSVP). Specifies that funds can be used to market the program to encourage civic engagement of the baby boom generation. Specifies that funds can be used to provide seniors with volunteer experiences in their communities including providing support services to seniors and persons with disabilities; academic tutoring; mentoring and social support in public schools and community colleges; and community policing, crime prevention and safety for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Services provided by RSVP volunteers
- Value of services provided to communities
- Resource guide created by RSVP office to connect individuals to services in their communities
- Need to encourage baby boom generation to volunteer in their communities
- Minimal growth in program budget since inception
- Increased funding not included in Governor's Recommended Budget

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is one of three Senior Corps programs operated by the Corporation for National and Community Services. RSVP programs help connect people over the age of 55 to meaningful volunteer experiences in their communities. Since 1995, the Oregon Legislature has awarded the Seniors and People with Disabilities Division of the Department of Human Services \$1.7 million in state General Funds to create and operate innovative, cost-effective approaches to utilize RSVP resources. Fifteen local RSVP projects have been established throughout the state and provide volunteer support for the senior and disabled communities, public schools and community colleges, and community crime agencies. More than 6,500 volunteers have provided more than 900,000 volunteer hours since the program's inception. The Governor's Recommended Budget allocates \$275,000 to the program for the 2007-2009 biennium.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.