

# House Bill 2798

Sponsored by Representative NELSON; Representatives BARKER, BERGER, BRUUN, FLORES, GARRARD, MINNIS, OLSON, G SMITH, P SMITH, THATCHER, WITT (at the request of Oregon War Veterans Association)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes program in Department of Veterans' Affairs to provide payment for reasonable funeral expenses for eligible veterans. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for program.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2007.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to funeral expenses for veterans; appropriating money; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) Notwithstanding ORS 408.710 to 408.750, the Department of Veterans'**  
5 **Affairs shall establish a program to provide payment for reasonable funeral expenses for el-**  
6 **igible veterans. The program shall provide up to a maximum amount of \$1,000 per eligible**  
7 **veteran for payment of reasonable funeral expenses for burial in a national cemetery in**  
8 **Oregon.**

9 (2) The department shall adopt rules implementing subsection (1) of this section. The  
10 rules shall include, but are not limited to, procedures for:

- 11 (a) Determining eligibility of veterans;  
12 (b) Selecting a funeral service practitioner;  
13 (c) Determining amounts of reasonable funeral expenses;  
14 (d) Applying for a funeral expenses benefit; and  
15 (e) Obtaining payment of funeral expenses.

16 **SECTION 2. Subject to section 1 of this 2007 Act, the Department of Veterans' Affairs**  
17 **shall provide payment of reasonable funeral expenses for up to 300 veterans annually.**

18 **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
19 **ated to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, out of**  
20 **the General Fund, the amount of \$600,000 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of**  
21 **sections 1 and 2 of this 2007 Act.**

22 **SECTION 4. This 2007 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
23 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2007 Act takes effect**  
24 **July 1, 2007.**

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**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.