

# Senate Bill 999

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

## 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**.

Creates Task Force on Providing Improved Mental Health Care for Oregon National Guard.  
Directs task force to study means of improving provision of mental health care to Oregon's veterans.  
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to mental health; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) There is created the Task Force on Providing Improved Mental Health**  
5 **Care for the Oregon National Guard, consisting of 10 members appointed as follows:**

6 (a) **The President of the Senate shall appoint:**

7 (A) **Two members from among members of the Senate.**

8 (B) **Two members who are members of the Oregon War Veterans Association.**

9 (b) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint:**

10 (A) **Two members from among members of the House of Representatives.**

11 (B) **Two members who are members of the Oregon Psychological Association.**

12 (c) **The Governor shall appoint two representatives from the Department of Veterans'**  
13 **Affairs.**

14 (2) **The task force shall study ways to improve the provision of mental health care to the**  
15 **members of the Oregon National Guard.**

16 (3) **A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction**  
17 **of business.**

18 (4) **Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**  
19 **of the task force.**

20 (5) **The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.**

21 (6) **If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**  
22 **ment to become immediately effective.**

23 (7) **The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson**  
24 **or of a majority of the members of the task force.**

25 (8) **The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

26 (9) **The task force shall submit a report, and may include recommendations for legis-**  
27 **lation, to an interim committee related to mental health care and veterans' affairs as ap-**  
28 **propriate no later than October 1, 2008.**

29 (10) **The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall provide staff support to the task force.**

30 (11) **Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not**  
31 **entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other**

**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.

1 expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and  
2 amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions  
3 of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the Department of Veterans'  
4 Affairs for that purpose.

5 (12) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist  
6 the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating  
7 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force  
8 consider necessary to perform their duties.

9 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2007 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the next  
10 regular biennial legislative session.

11 **SECTION 3.** This 2007 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
12 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2007 Act takes effect  
13 on its passage.

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