75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 3097 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Sen. Kruse

Senate Committee on Health Care & Veterans Affairs

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bates, Kruse, Morrisette, Morse, Monnes Anderson

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Robert Shook, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/14, 5/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of Human Services to adopt administrative rules that take into account experience in lieu of education for emergency medical technicians applying for certification by indorsement.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- U.S. military training requirements for paramedics
- Rules regarding reciprocity
- Maintaining educational and training standards
- Out-of-state paramedics taking jobs away from Oregon-trained paramedics

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Since 1999, Oregon has allowed paramedics from other states to apply for reciprocity providing individuals up to thirty-months to accomplish the education requirements (OAR Chapter 333). The Department of Human Services (DHS) asserts there are 250 nationally-registered paramedics in the U.S. military, the majority being concentrated in the U.S. Air Force. The Oregon State Paramedic Association indicates there are approximately 3,500 paramedics in Oregon, located primarily in the Willamette Valley and major urban-metropolitan areas.

House Bill 3097-A requires DHS to adopt administrative rules that take into account experience in lieu of education for emergency medical technicians applying for certification by indorsement. Proponents of the measure assert the need to support combat medics of the U.S. military exiting the service to seamlessly acquire reciprocity in Oregon to become emergency responders.