75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 96 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Sen. Bates

Senate Committee on Health Care & Veterans' Affairs

REVENUE: No revenue impact **FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 5 - 0 - 0

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

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Robert Shook, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 1/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Revises definition of veteran. Repeals definition of war veteran.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance for Oregon Department of Veterans to have one common definition of veteran
- Definition assists veterans with eligibility, benefits, and supportive services
- Consistency in Oregon Statutes relating to definition of veteran

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, there are six definitions of veteran in Oregon Statutes and the Oregon Constitution defines War Veteran for the purposes of Oregon Department of Veterans', Home Loans (ORVET). The various definitions can cause confusion for veterans.

SB 96 creates one common definition of veteran that is consistent with ORS 408.225. The measure does not impact the Constitutional definition of war veteran and the War Veteran Fund. Oregon Statutes affected by this modification are: 348.282; 408.225; 408.3-5; 408.350; 408.500.