

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	7 - 1 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Boone, Esquivel, Freeman, Komp, Matthews, Riley, Weidner
<b>Nays:</b>	Cowan
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	David Molina, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	5/19, 5/26

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Exempts military discharge records from public records disclosure. Creates exception for county clerks for producing discharge papers to certain individuals who make request in accordance with specified procedure. Allows clerk to impose additional procedures. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- The need to protect veterans' sensitive personal information
- Challenges to implementation
- Difficulty in ordering hard to find parts for microfilm and microfiche systems
- Legislative Counsel request
- Support from Oregon Association of County Clerks

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Resolves conflicts with Senate Bill 618-A.

**BACKGROUND:** Currently, any member of the public can request, from among Oregon's 36 county clerks, the disclosure of public records that includes a veterans military discharge records or DD-214 (ORS 192.502). A DD-214 contains a veteran's Social Security number, date of birth, resident address, military employment history, military awards and commendations.

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs approximates the state's total veterans' population is 351,697. Proponents of the measure assert the need to protect the personal information of veterans from public disclosure. In January 2009, the U.S. Veterans Administration settled a \$20 million lawsuit over the improper release of the personal information of up to 26.5 million veterans and active-duty service members, exposing them to possible identify theft.

Senate Bill 618-B exempts military discharge records from public records disclosure and provides specific limitations to access, and guidelines for county clerks to follow for public requests.