

**REVENUE:** Revenue statement issued

**FISCAL:** Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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**Action:** Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Tax Credits by prior reference

**Vote:** 6 - 0 - 0

**Yeas:** Boone, Huffman, Matthews, Parrish, Esquivel, Witt

**Nays:** 0

**Exc.:** 0

**Prepared By:** Jill Petty, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 3/8, 3/15

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Grants tax credit to members of the Oregon National Guard or military reservists on active duty and deployed outside the United States for Internet service. Applies to tax years beginning in 2012.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Importance of communication for families
- Cost of Internet service
- Skype is a low-cost alternative to telephone calls

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Military service members overseas rely on Internet service to stay in contact with their families and keep up with the news from home. Internet service costs between \$60 and \$100. Not all military service members can pay for Internet service. House Bill 3248 would help to defray the cost of Internet service for military service members.