

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
<b>Vote:</b>	6 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Boone, Huffman, Matthews, Parrish, Esquivel, Witt
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Jill Petty, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/12, 4/19

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires person submitting death certificate to county registrar in cases of suicide to make reasonable efforts to determine if decedent was a veteran, where decedent served, and to notify the Center for Health Statistics.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Costs associated with modifying death certificate
- Vietnam veterans suicide rate
- Better understanding of suicide statistics

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Requires veteran suicide information to be listed on death certificate. Requires Center for Health Statistics to be notified of veteran suicides.

**BACKGROUND:** The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (Department) released preliminary data which indicated the suicide rate among 18 to 29 year-old men who have left the military rose 26 percent from 2005 to 2007. The Department estimates that in 2005 there were 44.99 suicides per 100,000 veterans, compared to 56.77 suicides per 100,000 veterans in 2007. The rate of suicide among veterans in Oregon is uncertain due to inadequate statistics because current law does not require that information on veterans who commit suicide to be collected.

House Bill 3611 requires the person submitting the death certificate to make a reasonable effort to determine if the person was a veteran and where the person served in an effort to provide more accurate statistics on veterans who commit suicide.