

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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| Action: | Be Adopted |
| Vote: | 6 - 0 - 2 |
| Yeas: | Barnhart, Berger, Holvey, Wingard, Hunt, Olson |
| Nays: | - |
| Exc.: | Freeman, Garrett |
| Prepared By: | Jim Stenbridge, Administrator |
| Meeting Dates: | 5/18 |

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Encourages the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to establish a full Level II hospital in Roseburg, Oregon, and to ensure that community health needs are met through Roseburg's VA Medical Center.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Excellent quality of veterans' health care "when you can get it"
- Importance of Roseburg's VA Medical Center to the community of Roseburg
- Statewide services provided in Roseburg and over-crowding at the Portland VA facility
- Capacity of private facilities in the Roseburg area
- Need for intensive care unit (ICU) at the Roseburg VA Medical Center
- Need for treatment of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) at the Roseburg VA Medical Center
- Examples of after-the-fact private-care coverage decisions that result in wrongful denial of VA benefits
- Failure to publicly-release Booz-Allen-Hamilton report done for the VA

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Department of Veterans Affairs, through the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), operates a system comprising 153 medical centers, 882 ambulatory care and community-based outpatient clinics, 207 Vet Centers, 136 nursing homes, 45 residential rehabilitation treatment programs, and 92 comprehensive home-based care programs—all providing medical and related services to eligible veterans. The VA's 2012 budget request, announced February 14, 2011, was for \$132 billion, including \$50 billion for health care.

The VA Roseburg Healthcare System (VARHS) consists of one Veterans Health Administration (VHA) facility located in Roseburg, and three community clinics in Brookings, Eugene and North Bend. The Roseburg campus consists of 200 acres and 32 buildings. VARHS offers primary care and hospital services in medicine, surgery, and mental health for 62,000 veterans who reside in central and southern Oregon and northern California. The Roseburg VA Medical Center is the only VA medical center between Portland and San Francisco. A preliminary study by consultant Booz-Allen-Hamilton, done in late-2010 at the request of local congressmen and senators, listed six options for the future of the medical center, including two options the consultant will not recommend: keeping things the way they are, and going to a full service hospital. House Joint Memorial 26 urges the VA to implement the full-service hospital option.