

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	4 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Monnes Anderson, Olsen, President Courtney, Boquist
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Lori Brocker, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/2, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs to assign more than one state employee to provide management oversight of second Oregon Veterans' Home. Permits second Oregon Veterans' Home to admit patients eligible for admittance under federal law. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Legislative history of current limitation on state employees for second Veterans' Home
- Care provided by contract employees at Veterans' Home

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon currently has one Veterans' Home, located in The Dalles. The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) is authorized to build a second Veterans' Home, to be located in Linn County. Under ORS 408.375, ODVA is allowed one full-time employee to provide oversight for the second Veterans' Home. The Veterans' Home in The Dalles currently has two ODVA employees providing management oversight, with outside contractors providing care. Senate Bill 73 gives the Director of the ODVA the discretion to provide additional oversight of care contractors at the future Veterans' Home in Linn County.

ORS 408.375 also mandates that the second Veterans' Home admit only veterans, as statutorily defined, or their spouses. Senate Bill 73 expands the admission criteria, allowing the second Veterans' Home to admit persons who may be eligible under federal law, ensuring that Oregon is in compliance if the United States Department of Veterans Affairs expands eligibility for veterans' homes beyond what is currently allowed.