

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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:	2/9, 2/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: States Legislative Assembly findings that United States Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration (VA) should be encouraged to export expertise in military sexual trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder and other conditions associated with military service to outside health care providers. Encourages outside health care providers to seek continuing education related to military sexual trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder and other conditions associated with military service. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Expertise of VA health care personnel
- Number of women veterans with military sexual trauma and other conditions associated with military service
- Export of specialized skill and knowledge from VA personnel to providers treating nonmilitary persons

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Legislative Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care, established by House Bill 2718 (2009), determined that approximately 7,000 of Oregon's 25,000 women veterans use the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration (VA) facilities and personnel when seeking treatment for military sexual trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other conditions related to military service. Veterans not using the VA system may be treated by providers with limited experience or knowledge of conditions associated with military service. The Task Force concluded that private health care providers could benefit from VA personnel's expertise in military sexual trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other similar conditions.

Senate Bill 276 encourages VA health care personnel to share their expertise and, concurrently, encourages health care providers outside the VA system to seek out VA expertise in conditions associated with military service.