



# Oregon

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**DATE:** May 16, 2013

**TO:** Ways & Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

**FROM:** Amy Joyce, Legislative Liaison

**SUBJECT:** SB 762-A

## INTRODUCTION

SB 762-A would allow customers to donate to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Veterans Suicide Prevention and Outreach Program when they are renewing vehicle registration online with Oregon Department of Transportation, Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV).

## DISCUSSION

DMV processes approximately 20,000 registration renewals each month via the online E-Gov website. Under the bill DMV would offer customers the opportunity to donate money to the Veterans Suicide Prevention and Outreach Program as part of a vehicle registration transaction. Likely the system would allow the person to choose this option near the end of their DMV transaction, and the customer would be passed through to an ODVA-owned web site where the donation would be made. Limiting the donation opportunity to online registration renewals allows automation of the process and direct donation to the fund identified. Yet it still reaches a large number of Oregonians.

Costs to implement this bill are not Highway Fund eligible under Oregon's Constitution, but are quite low. The Transportation Operating Fund—ODOT's non-Highway Fund revenues—has been identified as the funding mechanism for this effort. It should be noted, however, that opening up this fund-raising avenue for one cause likely will lead to other entities seeking similar opportunity. It is unknown whether the TOF could continue to be the source for any such efforts in the future.

## SUMMARY

The bill with proposed amendments would have DMV offer an on-line donation opportunity for the Veterans Suicide Prevention and Outreach Program. While costs to implement this fund-raising mechanism are very low, they are not eligible for Highway Funds.