



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D., Governor

MEASURE: SB 762
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Department of Transportation

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DATE: April 11, 2013
TO: Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness
FROM: Amy Joyce, Legislative Liaison
SUBJECT: SB 762 with amendments, donations at time of vehicle registration renewal

INTRODUCTION

SB 762 with several proposed amendments 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 1.5 million registration renewal transactions each year. There are many ways those transactions reach DMV. Most are just standard renewals, while about 6% of them are done as part of a new title transaction. For those standard renewals, DMV offers five options for customers to renew their registration: online, in the field office, by mail, through vehicle dealers at the point of purchase, or while completing emissions testing at DEQ in those parts of the state where that is a requirement for Clean Air Act purposes. There are 120,000 standard registration renewals every month, and nearly 20% of those are done via the online E-Gov website.

Under the bill with several different proposed amendments DMV would offer the opportunity to donate money to the Veterans Suicide Prevention and Outreach Program as part of a vehicle registration transaction. The -4 amendment allows that opportunity when a customer renews a vehicle registration online. Limiting the donation opportunity to online registration renewals reaches a large number of Oregonians. Pursuing this donation opportunity through the online renewal system would allow automation of the process and direct donation to the fund identified.

Costs to implement this bill are not Highway Fund eligible under Oregon's Constitution. Also, opening up this fund-raising avenue for one cause likely will lead to other entities seeking similar opportunity.

SUMMARY

The bill with proposed amendments would require DMV to offer a donation opportunity for the Veterans Suicide Prevention and Outreach Program. The -4 amendment provides that opportunity through the online vehicle registration renewal process. While costs to implement this fund-raising mechanism are very low, they are not eligible for Highway Funds.