

**REVENUE:** Revenue statement issued

**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Human Services and Housing by prior reference and then Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
<b>Vote:</b>	7 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Boone, Esquivel, Fagan, Huffman, Parrish, Witt, Matthews
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Elizabeth Edwards, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/14, 2/21

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Increases recording and filing fee collected by county clerk, and deposited in County Assessment and Taxation Fund (County Fund), by five dollars, from \$15 to \$20. Instructs Housing and Community Services Department (Department) to expend at least 25 percent of funds in Emergency Housing Account and Home Ownership Assistance Account received from County Fund to assist homeless veterans and veterans at risk of becoming homeless. Requires Department expend at least 25 percent of General Housing Account from County Fund on veteran housing needs.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Request review of how \$15 county fee is currently used
- Veterans already served by programs addressing homelessness generally
- Five dollar fee would go exclusively to veteran-focused programs, approximately \$6 million per year
- The “25 percent of funds” designated to three housing accounts reflects new five dollar fee
- Role of case managers to help homeless veterans successfully transition into housing
- Amount of funds currently used for administrative costs

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** One out of every six men and women in homeless shelters across the country is a veteran. In many communities across Oregon, veterans working in the most common jobs available through the Department of Labor’s specialized training programs do not earn enough to afford median-priced homes. House Bill 2417 increases an existing document recording fee by five dollars in order to provide additional funding for emergency rent assistance, building or rehabilitating housing, and down payment assistance for veterans.