

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

---

<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass
<b>Vote:</b>	4 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Monnes Anderson, Olsen, President Courtney, Boquist
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Cheyenne Ross, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/28, 3/7

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) to define "honorable conditions" via rule. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Possibility of ambiguity, that state law could be construed as excluding honorable discharge and apply only to general discharge
- ODVA has no issue with existing language
- Rules permit ease of adjustment to align with federal standard

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

**BACKGROUND:** "Honorable conditions" is not specifically defined in Oregon law, but the phrase "discharged or released under honorable conditions" appears within the definition of "veteran" at ORS 407.090(1),(2) and 408.225(1)(e). "Veteran" is defined in order to facilitate determinations of eligibility for benefits, and a veteran's discharge status impacts eligibility. The federal government uses "conditions other than dishonorable" as its standard. House Bill 2633 permits ODVA to define "honorable conditions" via rulemaking.