

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Revenue by prior reference
Vote:	7 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Boone, Esquivel, Fagan, Huffman, Parrish, Witt, Matthews
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Elizabeth Edwards, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/21, 3/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates tax credit for members of Oregon National Guard, or military reservist ordered on active duty, deployed to location outside of United States for amount equal to payments incurred for Internet access or usage while abroad. Allows proration of credit for nonresidents and for changes in, or terminations of, taxpayer's tax year. Applies tax credit to tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2014.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Combat deployment versus service abroad
- Importance of keeping in touch with family while deployed
- Advances in technology increase ability to stay connected
- Loss of income when members of the National Guard are deployed
- Contrast to legislators' service and ability to keep in touch with family

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Military service members overseas use Internet service to stay in contact with their families, friends and each other. Internet service through a government contracted provider abroad may cost anywhere from \$60.00 to \$100.00 a month. Some military service members have a difficult time paying for this service. House Bill 2883 defrays the cost of Internet service for military service members abroad by allowing a tax credit of the equivalent amount.