77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Veterans' Services and Emergency Preparedness

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 6 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Boone, Esquivel, Huffman, Parrish, Witt, Matthews

Nays: 0 Exc.: Fagan

Prepared By: Elizabeth Edwards, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/30, 5/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases number of home or farm loans eligible individuals may receive from Oregon Department of Veteran Affairs (ODVA) from two to four. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

MEASURE: SB 34 A

CARRIER: Rep. Esquivel

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Success of ODVA loan program and ways to improve it
- Companion measure, Senate Bill 35
- Language of original measure and progress through Senate committee; work group arrived at four-loan limit
- Foreclosure mediation program
- Low default rates among veterans

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon law currently prohibits eligible persons from receiving or assuming more than two home or farm loans from the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs. Senate Bill 34A raises that limit to four, permitting eligible persons to borrow up to the current maximum benefit amount of \$417,000 each time, if they otherwise qualify.