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:
 Be Adopted

 Vote:
 7 - 0 - 0

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

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Elizabeth Edwards, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Supports United Service Organizations and establishment of welcome center for members of Armed Forces at Portland International Airport.

MEASURE: SCR 16

CARRIER: Rep. Esquivel

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Support USOs provide to soldiers around the world
- Opportunities to volunteer and donate
- Potential contract limitations on branded donations
- How USO will be identified at Portland International Airport

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The mission of the United Service Organizations (USO) is to raise the spirits of servicemembers and their families. The USO has been in operation for 70 years, creating social environments, providing entertainment, and improving morale. In this way, the USO reconnects servicemembers with home, wherever they may be stationed, and reminds them that their country is thinking of them.

The USO has established a number of airport lounges and welcome centers just for traveling servicemembers. Senate Concurrent Resolution 16 supports the establishment of a USO welcome center at Portland International Airport, and thanks the USO for its longstanding dedication to servicemembers everywhere.