

**PRELIMINARY** STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

**SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:** None

**Action:**

**Vote:**

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

**Prepared By:** Cheyenne Ross, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 3/24

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Expands authority of Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs to act without bond as fiduciary for veterans’ benefits and receive payment of social security and supplemental security income benefits on behalf of qualifying veterans and their dependents. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

**BACKGROUND:** The authority of the Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs (ODVA) to act in specific ways on behalf of veterans is governed by ORS 406.050; however, two roles are not specifically included. ODVA is conservator for veterans unable to manage their financial affairs, and representative payee to receive veterans’ federal VA and Social Security benefits. Senate Bill 251 includes ODVA’s roles as fiduciary and representative payee in the state’s authorizing statutes, consistent with current practice.