

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: 3/10, 3/24, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Permits each county to appoint volunteer veterans’ ombudsman with specified qualifications to complement county veterans’ service officers.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- General support for measure, ideas for possible improvement
- Other structural analogies: successful county volunteer programs; CASA program; long-term care ombudsman
- Importance of training, education and accountability; a coordinator rather than an ombudsman

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

[-1 amendment] Alternative to Senate Bill 89. Duplicate of -1 amendment to Senate Bill 89 with different volunteer title. Permits counties and Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs (ODVA) to appoint volunteers to provide support services and assistance to those ODVA serves. Describes duties and provides for oversight. Requires background check and protection of client confidentiality. Permits reimbursement for expenses and other incidentals. Permits ODVA to provide training.

BACKGROUND: