

**PRELIMINARY** STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

**REVENUE: No Revenue Impact**

**FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact**

**SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL: None**

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**Action:**

**Vote:**

**Yeas:**

**Nays:**

**Exc.:**

**Prepared By:** Bryan Guiney, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 4/30

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Makes certain veterans' and service members' personally-identifiable information exempt from disclosure, pursuant to public records request, when obtained and kept by Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs in performance of its functions.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

**BACKGROUND:** The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) conducts outreach to embolden veterans to take advantage of benefits they have merited, and often acts in capacities that require the veteran's trust, such as managing the veteran's finances, long term health care and home ownership. Specifically targeting individual service members is an established tactic of groups hostile to Americans and American values. Protecting the privacy of both veterans and service members is of paramount concern to ODVA and the state.

Senate Bill 253-A holds veterans' and service members' personally-identifiable information confidential, if it was obtained by ODVA in the performance of the agency's role and functions.