

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges Congress to change funding of veterans’ health care from discretionary entitlement to permanent and direct entitlement.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: Currently, federal spending on veterans’ health care is discretionary. Veterans are able to receive health care services through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs’ health care system only to the extent congressional appropriations allow.

Oregon’s Legislative Assembly has sent a message to Congress about the importance of consistent and reliable funding for veterans’ health care going back six years with three previous House Joint Resolutions: HJM 21 (2009), HJM 18 (2011),and HGM 9 (2013).

House Joint Memorial 18 urges Congress for the fourth time, to make the funding of health care for veterans’ a permanent and direct entitlement.

House Committee: 7 – 0 – 0

House Floor: 59 – 0 – 1