

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date:

Action:

Meeting Dates:

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits law enforcement unit to sponsor reserve officer for training as police officer. Allows reserve officers sponsored by law enforcement unit to pay for training as police officer with cash and G.I. Bill education benefits. Requires Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) to increase class size as necessary to train reserve officers sponsored by law enforcement units. Prohibits DPSST class sizes from increasing over 25 percent as of the effective date. Requires DPSST to conduct impact study. Contains sunset of January 2, 2022, for sponsorship program. Contains sunset of December 31, 2020, for required DPSST study.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

Issues discussed in the House Committee on Judiciary:

- Current hiring, training process, and payment system
- Focus of bill on subsidizing training with G.I. Bill education benefits
- Provides opportunity for training and employment to qualifying veterans
- Protection clause
- Additional work and potential work group
- Department of Public Safety Standards and Training concerns regarding budget and wait list
- Concern regarding psychological evaluation

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The State of Oregon is home to many returning veterans looking to enter the workforce. In many cases, these veterans are well-suited to train for a career in law enforcement, and have G.I. Bill education benefits.

House Bill 3388 allows reserve officers to be sponsored by law enforcement units in order to receive training as a police officer. The bill allows reserve officers sponsored by law enforcement units to use cash or any other G.I. Bill education benefits to pay for their training courses. House Bill 3388 mandates that sponsored reserve officers who complete the courses required for training as a police officer be designated as certified reserve officers. The bill permits their employment as a police officer by any law enforcement unit in Oregon. Additionally, the bill requires that sponsored reserve officers who complete courses required for certification as a police officer remain with a law enforcement agency for at least three years after their date of certification.

House Bill 3388 also requires the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) to increase their class size as necessary to train reserve officers sponsored by law enforcement units, but prohibits an increase greater than 25 percent as of the effective date. The bill requires DPSST to conduct impact studies regarding the sponsorship program starting four years after the bill's effective date. DPSST must then submit a report on their finding, which may include recommendations, to the

interim committees of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020. Finally, the bill contains sunset clauses for both the DPSST study, which sunsets on December 31, 2020, and the sponsorship program, which sunsets on January 2, 2022.