
MEMORANDUM

Legislative Fiscal Office
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To: Human Services Subcommittee of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means

From: Kim To, Legislative Fiscal Office, 503-986-1830

Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Subject: HB 2230 Relating to communication between state agencies regarding members of uniformed services
Work Session Recommendation

House Bill 2230 requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to notify the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) at least once a month with the names and addresses of uniform service members and veterans. OHA must obtain the uniform service member's or veteran's authorization to release this information. The bill declares an emergency and takes effect July 1, 2015. The fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate at this time.

The measure previously had hearings in the House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness on 2/1/2015 and 2/26/2015; as well as the Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness on 4/28/2015 and 5/5/2015.

The original staff measure summary and the fiscal impact statement are attached to this memo, and available on the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS).

Fiscal impact

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB), the Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB) may incur costs associated with system changes. The Legislative Fiscal Office anticipates these costs to be absorbable, and any budgetary actions required for the bill can be address during the 2015-17 rebalance.

Motion

Motion: Senator/Representative _____:

I move HB 2230 to the Full Committee with a "do pass" recommendation.

Assignment of Carriers

Full: _____

Senate: _____

House: _____

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2230

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

Prepared by: Kim To
Reviewed by: Linda Ames, Michelle Deister
Date: 2/23/2015

Measure Description:

Requires Director of Oregon Health Authority to notify Director of Veterans' Affairs upon receipt of certain written information from member or veteran of uniformed service, if authorized to do so by member or veteran.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA)

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

House Bill 2230 requires the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to notify the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) at least once a month with the names and addresses of uniform service members and veterans. OHA must obtain the uniform service member's or veteran's authorization to release this information. The bill declares an emergency and takes effect July 1, 2015. The fiscal impact of this bill is indeterminate at this time.

Oregon Health Authority (OHA)

Currently the Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB) and the Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB) do not collect the service status of members enrolling in their health benefit plans. OEBB estimates the cost of modifying the enrollment system to collect the information and to collect applicants' written authorizations required by this bill to be approximately \$177,000 Other Funds for the 2015-17 biennium. PEBB estimates the cost of modifying their enrollment system to be approximately \$190,000 Other Funds for the 2015-17 biennium.

Although OHA anticipates capturing the required veteran data as part of the new Medical Assistance Gross Income System (MAGI) slated for implementation at the end of the 2015 calendar year, at this time, OHA cannot determine the exact process changes that will need to be implemented. The bill directs OHA, in consultation with ODVA, to adopt rules to implement the provisions of this bill. Depending on those rules and associated process/system changes, OHA may be able to implement the bill with existing agency resources. However, if the system requirements and administrative workload exceed expectations, OHA may need to return to the Emergency Board or Legislative Assembly to seek additional direction or resources.

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA)

At present, ODVA has an existing outreach process in place and similar arrangements exist between ODVA and other state agencies (e.g. the Department of Corrections and the Bureau of Labor Industries). With additional information from OHA, the number of newly identified service members and veterans who can be contacted and directed by ODVA staff to a veteran service officer or a service provider will increase. If the workload exceeds currently budgeted volume, ODVA may need to establish one Public Service Representative 4 position (1.00 FTE) to handle the increased workload. ODVA estimates the cost of this to be approximately \$232,419 General Fund per biennium. If the intent of the bill is for ODVA to use this information to increase its outreach efforts, ODVA may need to return to the Emergency Board or Legislative Assembly to seek additional direction or resources.

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

MEASURE: HB 2230
CARRIER: Rep. Nathanson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/26/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 02/12, 02/26

Vote:

Yeas: 6 - Boone, Esquivel, Evans, Lively, Parrish, Piluso

Exc: 1 - Huffman

Prepared By: Bryan Guiney, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) notify Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) upon receipt of self-identified information from veteran or active service member. Restricts notification to name and address. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015. Becomes operative January 1, 2016.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Incorporating Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) into future veteran referral to ODVA
- Fiscal impact
- Contacting veterans electronically and through traditional mail

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

There are about 330,000 veterans in Oregon; about three in ten receive benefits. In order to increase the use of benefits, the legislature passed House Bill 2421 in 2013, which required the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)/Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to provide the Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) with names and addresses of veterans or active service members who applied for licenses, identification cards, certificates of vehicle title, or vehicle registrations. The veteran or active service member had to indicate that they would like to be contacted by ODVA and provide written authorization to DMV to release their name and address. To date, ODVA has contacted roughly 25,000 Oregon veterans or active service members from voluntary DMV referral.

House Bill 2230 expands voluntary identification to ODVA through veteran or active service member interaction with the Oregon Health Authority.

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/05/15

Action: Do Pass And Refer To Ways And Means By Prior Reference.

Meeting Dates: 04/28, 05/05

Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Monnes Anderson, Olsen, President Courtney

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to notify Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) of agreeable veterans' name and address. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015. Becomes operative January 1, 2016.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of "no wrong door" policy
- Key to veteran outreach
- Implementation costs offset by federal benefits and compensation received by eligible veterans

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

About 330,000 veterans currently reside in Oregon. The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) estimates about 230,000 do not receive benefits, and of those, around 100,000 would qualify if they could be identified and contacted. In 2012, the legislature enacted House Bill 4064 to improve veterans' access to benefits. The measure directed the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to inquire about the veteran status of individuals seeking services, and with the veteran's permission, share that information with ODVA. This idea was termed the "no wrong door" policy. It was followed in 2013 by House Bills 2421 and 2422: the former applied to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and the latter applied to the Department of Human Services (DHS). Both entities are required to ask about the veteran status of individuals seeking services, and with their permission, forward their contact information to ODVA.

House Bill 2230 expands Oregon's "no wrong door" policy once again, requiring the Oregon Health Authority to ask about the veteran status of individuals seeking services, and with their permission, share their contact information with ODVA.

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date:

Action:

Meeting Dates:

Prepared By: Kim To, Fiscal Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to notify Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) of agreeable veterans' name and address. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015. Becomes operative January 1, 2016.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fiscal Impact

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

About 330,000 veterans currently reside in Oregon. The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) estimates about 230,000 do not receive benefits, and of those, around 100,000 would qualify if they could be identified and contacted. In 2012, the legislature enacted House Bill 4064 to improve veterans' access to benefits. The measure directed the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to inquire about the veteran status of individuals seeking services, and with the veteran's permission, share that information with ODVA. This idea was termed the "no wrong door" policy. It was followed in 2013 by House Bills 2421 and 2422: the former applied to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and the latter applied to the Department of Human Services (DHS). Both entities are required to ask about the veteran status of individuals seeking services, and with their permission, forward their contact information to ODVA.

House Bill 2230 expands Oregon's "no wrong door" policy once again, requiring the Oregon Health Authority to ask about the veteran status of individuals seeking services, and with their permission, share their contact information with ODVA.

House Bill 2230

Sponsored by Representative NATHANSON; Representatives BARNHART, GOMBERG, LIVELY, REARDON, SMITH WARNER (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires Director of Oregon Health Authority to notify Director of Veterans' Affairs upon receipt of certain written information from member or veteran of uniformed service, if authorized to do so by member or veteran. Restricts notification to name and address of member or veteran.

Becomes operative January 1, 2016.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to communication between state agencies regarding members of uniformed services; and
3 declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

6 (a) **"Uniformed service" means the Armed Forces of the United States, the Army Na-**
7 **tional Guard or the Air National Guard when the member is engaged in active duty for**
8 **training, inactive duty for training or full-time National Guard duty, the commissioned corps**
9 **of the United States Public Health Service and any other category of persons designated by**
10 **the President of the United States in time of war or national emergency.**

11 (b) **"Written information" means information that is in written form and includes but is**
12 **not limited to information obtained by electronic means, such as electronic mail, facsimile**
13 **or other form of electronic communication.**

14 (2)(a) **Subject to subsection (3) of this section, the Director of the Oregon Health Au-**
15 **thority shall notify the Director of Veterans' Affairs at least once each month regarding**
16 **receipt of written information from a member or veteran of a uniformed service in con-**
17 **nection with an application for health care coverage.**

18 (b) **The notification required under this subsection is limited to notifying the Director**
19 **of Veterans' Affairs of the name and residence address or mailing address of the member**
20 **or veteran.**

21 (c) **The authorization of a member or veteran as required by subsection (3) of this section**
22 **may be contained in the written information at the time it is received by the Oregon Health**
23 **Authority or separately at another time, but the authorization must specifically authorize**
24 **the notification to be made under this section.**

25 (3) **The Director of the Oregon Health Authority shall notify the Director of Veterans'**
26 **Affairs as required by subsection (2) of this section only if authorized to do so in writing by**
27 **the member or veteran of a uniformed service.**

28 (4) **The Oregon Health Authority, in consultation with the Department of Veterans' Af-**
29 **fairs, shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section, including but not limited**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 to the method of notification required under subsection (2) of this section.

2 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2015 Act becomes operative on January 1, 2016.

3 **SECTION 3.** This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
4 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect
5 July 1, 2015.

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