

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/12/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 02/10, 02/12

House

Yeas: 7 - Boone, Esquivel, Evans, Piluso, Lively, Parrish, Huffman

Prepared By: Bryan Guiney, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows public employers to compensate deployed employees. Stipulates amount shall not exceed base salary on date of deployment. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Healthcare and other benefits made available to deployed employees
- Effects on established statewide leave donation program

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon Revised Statute 408.240 requires public employers to treat employees who are also members of the National Guard or Reserve, as "absent on leave" during periods of deployment, when they are unable to perform their duties. The statute prohibits public employers from paying the employee-service member, and requires maintenance of both the service member's position and employer-sponsored benefits.

House Bill 2763 lifts the prohibition against compensation, permitting public employers to offer compensation while service members are deployed, at their discretion.