

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/07/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments, Be Printed Engrossed And Be Referred To Ways And Means By Prior Reference.

Meeting Dates: 03/17, 04/07

Vote:

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

Prepared By: Bryan Guiney, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Oregon Educational and Workforce Development Bridge Loan Program in Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), as specified.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure
- Federal educational benefits for veterans

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Clarifies language.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) currently administers the Oregon Veteran Educational Aid Program which provides educational benefits to eligible veterans pursuing approved programs equal to the number of months of active duty service, for up to 36 months. Benefits are paid while pursuing classroom instruction, home study courses, vocational training, licensing and certificates from accredited Oregon educational institutions. Full-time students are entitled to receive up to \$150 per month; part-time students are entitled to receive up to \$100 per month.

House Bill 2840-A establishes the Oregon Educational and Workforce Development Bridge Loan Program within ODVA. To qualify, veterans must be eligible to receive federal educational aid or other federal financial assistance based upon prior service in the Armed Forces, and the aid or assistance must not have been paid.