

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2838

By COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

April 24

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, after “veterans” insert “; and declaring an emergency”.

2 Delete lines 4 through 28 and delete page 2 and insert:

3 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Incarcerated Veterans is established, consisting of**
4 **eight members appointed as follows:**

5 **“(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the**
6 **Senate.**

7 **“(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among**
8 **members of the House of Representatives.**

9 **“(c) The Director of Veterans’ Affairs shall appoint one representative from the Depart-**
10 **ment of Veterans’ Affairs with expertise in services and benefits for incarcerated veterans.**

11 **“(d) The Director of the Department of Corrections shall appoint one representative from**
12 **the Department of Corrections with experience with incarcerated veterans.**

13 **“(e) The Governor shall appoint two individuals who have been incarcerated veterans or**
14 **who have had experience with incarcerated veterans.**

15 **“(2) The task force shall research, study and make recommendations regarding the fol-**
16 **lowing:**

17 **“(a) Outreach that may be done to incarcerated veterans with information about**
18 **veterans’ benefits and other benefit programs that provide services and resources to**
19 **incarcerated veterans;**

20 **“(b) Assistance that may be available for incarcerated veterans in applying for federal**
21 **and state veterans’ benefits and aid to which incarcerated veteran may be entitled on ac-**
22 **count of the incarcerated veterans’ military service;**

23 **“(c) Assistance that may be available to incarcerated veterans in appealing any denial**
24 **of veterans’ benefits or aid;**

25 **“(d) Informational materials that may be created for incarcerated veterans;**

26 **“(e) The process and recommendations for developing a comprehensive and coordinated**
27 **statewide network of information and referral resources for incarcerated veterans; and**

28 **“(f) Recommendations for how the Department of Veterans’ Affairs may serve as a liai-**
29 **son for incarcerated veterans and incarcerated veterans issues with the Department of**
30 **Corrections, reentry councils, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and others.**

31 **“(3) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the trans-**
32 **action of business.**

33 **“(4) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**
34 **of the task force.**

35 **“(5) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.**

1 “(6) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
2 ment to become immediately effective.

3 “(7) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
4 or of a majority of the members of the task force.

5 “(8) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

6 “(9) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
7 may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim legislative committees with
8 subject matter jurisdiction of veterans’ affairs no later than September 15, 2016.

9 “(10) The Department of Veterans’ Affairs shall provide staff support to the task force.

10 “(11) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are
11 not entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and
12 other expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner
13 and amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing func-
14 tions of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the Department of Veterans’
15 Affairs for purposes of the task force.

16 “(12) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
17 the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating
18 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force
19 consider necessary to perform their duties.

20 “SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2015 Act is repealed on December 31, 2016.

21 “SECTION 3. This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
22 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect
23 on its passage.”.

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