

# House Bill 2838

Sponsored by Representative EVANS; Representatives BARKER, CLEM, FREDERICK, GILLIAM, HELM, HUFFMAN, LIVELY, MCLAIN, NOSSE, RAYFIELD, WITT

## 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**.

Establishes Oregon Incarcerated Veterans Outreach Program in Department of Veterans' Affairs to conduct outreach and provide assistance to incarcerated veterans and spouses and dependents of incarcerated veterans.

Creates Oregon Incarcerated Veterans Outreach Program Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to department to implement and operate program.

Requires department to report to interim legislative committees on or before July 1, 2020, regarding program.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to incarcerated veterans.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "incarcerated veteran" means a person who is:**

5 **(a) Incarcerated in and a resident of the State of Oregon; and**

6 **(b) A veteran as defined in ORS 408.225.**

7 **(2) There is established in the Department of Veterans' Affairs the Oregon Incarcerated**  
8 **Veterans Outreach Program. The purposes of the program are:**

9 **(a) To conduct outreach and provide incarcerated veterans, and spouses and dependents**  
10 **of incarcerated veterans, with:**

11 **(A) Information regarding veterans' benefits and other benefit programs that provide**  
12 **services and resources to incarcerated veterans and spouses and dependents of incarcerated**  
13 **veterans; and**

14 **(B) Assistance in applying for federal and state veterans' benefits and aid to which**  
15 **incarcerated veterans, and spouses and dependents of incarcerated veterans, may be entitled**  
16 **on account of the incarcerated veterans' military service and in appealing any denial of**  
17 **veterans' benefits or aid;**

18 **(b) Develop and offer informational materials for incarcerated veterans and spouses and**  
19 **dependents of incarcerated veterans; and**

20 **(c) Develop a comprehensive and coordinated statewide network of information and re-**  
21 **ferral resources for incarcerated veterans and spouses and dependents of incarcerated vet-**  
22 **erans.**

23 **(3) The department shall adopt rules for the implementation and operation of the pro-**  
24 **gram.**

25 **SECTION 2. The Oregon Incarcerated Veterans Outreach Program Fund is created in the**  
26 **State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Oregon**  
27 **Incarcerated Veterans Outreach Program Fund shall be credited to the fund. Moneys in the**  
28 **fund are continuously appropriated to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for the purpose**

**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 of implementing and operating the Oregon Incarcerated Veterans Outreach Program.

2 **SECTION 3.** Not later than July 1, 2020, the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall submit  
3 a report to the interim legislative committees on veterans' affairs regarding the implemen-  
4 tation and operation of the Oregon Incarcerated Veterans Outreach Program, including but  
5 not limited to the number of incarcerated veterans, and spouses and dependents of  
6 incarcerated veterans, served by the program, the types of assistance provided by the pro-  
7 gram and recommendations for improvement and expansion of the program and for legis-  
8 lation.

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