

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3479

Ordered by the House June 17
Including House Amendments dated June 17

Sponsored by Representatives PILUSO, WEIDNER, Senator MONNES ANDERSON; Representatives BOONE, BUEHLER, EVANS, GALLEGOS, GORSEK, GREENLICK, HELM, KENY-GUYER, LININGER, LIVELY, MCLAIN, PARRISH, RAYFIELD, SMITH, SMITH WARNER, TAYLOR, WHISNANT, WHITSETT, WITT, Senators BOQUIST, ROBLAN, SHIELDS, THOMSEN, WHITSETT, WINTERS

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.

Creates position of Oregon Women Veterans Coordinator in Department of Veterans' Affairs and specifies responsibilities.

Requires report to Legislative Assembly on or before September 15, 2018.

Appropriates moneys to department to establish position.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to assistance for women veterans; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. The position of Oregon Women Veterans Coordinator is created in the De-**
5 **partment of Veterans' Affairs. The responsibilities of the coordinator include, but are not**
6 **limited to, all of the following:**

7 (1) **Conducting outreach and providing assistance to women veterans and their spouses**
8 **and dependents regarding veterans' benefits and other benefit programs that provide services**
9 **and resources to women veterans and their spouses and dependents.**

10 (2) **Providing assistance in applying for federal and state veterans' benefits and aid that**
11 **women veterans and their spouses and dependents may be entitled to and helping to appeal**
12 **any denial of benefits and aid.**

13 (3) **Developing and distributing informational materials for women veterans and their**
14 **spouses and dependents regarding veterans' benefits and other benefit programs that provide**
15 **services and resources to women veterans and their spouses and dependents.**

16 **SECTION 2. No later than September 15, 2018, the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall**
17 **prepare and submit a report to the standing and interim committees of the Legislative As-**
18 **sembly that have authority over the subject area of veterans' affairs regarding the imple-**
19 **mentation and status of the position of Oregon Women Veterans Coordinator in the**
20 **department. The report shall include, at a minimum, information regarding the following:**

21 (1) **The number of women veterans, and spouses and dependents of women veterans,**
22 **served;**

23 (2) **The type of assistance provided by the coordinator;**

24 (3) **Recommendations for the improvement and expansion of the services provided by the**
25 **coordinator; and**

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 **(4) Recommendations for legislation.**

2 **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
3 **ated to the Department of Veterans' Affairs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2015, out of**
4 **the General Fund, the amount of \$263,217, which may be expended for the purpose of imple-**
5 **menting and administering the position of Oregon Women Veterans Coordinator in the De-**
6 **partment of Veterans' Affairs.**

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

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