

House Bill 3532

Sponsored by Representative 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 task force to study how to provide benefits for disabled veterans through preferred worker program that is modeled on Reemployment Assistance Program and to make recommendations for legislation regarding implementation and potential funding sources for preferred worker program for disabled veterans. Requires task force to submit recommendations to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2016.

Sunsets task force on December 31, 2016.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the creation of a preferred worker program for disabled veterans; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1. As used in section 2 of this 2015 Act, "preferred worker program" means the**
6 **program established under ORS 656.622 and administered by the Workers' Compensation Di-**
7 **vision of the Department of Consumer and Business Services.**

8 **SECTION 2. (1) The Task Force on the Preferred Worker Program for Disabled Veterans**
9 **is established, consisting of 11 members appointed as follows:**

10 (a) **The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the**
11 **Senate.**

12 (b) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among**
13 **members of the House of Representatives.**

14 (c) **The Governor shall appoint nine members, three of whom shall represent disabled**
15 **veterans in this state, three of whom shall possess working knowledge of funding of pro-**
16 **grams and services for veterans, one of whom shall represent the Department of Veterans'**
17 **Affairs, one of whom shall represent the Department of Consumer and Business Services and**
18 **possess expertise in the preferred worker program, and one of whom shall represent the in-**
19 **terests of the public.**

20 (2) **The task force shall collect and synthesize information about creating a program for**
21 **disabled veterans modeled after the preferred worker program. The task force shall also**
22 **make recommendations for legislation regarding the establishment of the program and shall**
23 **identify funding sources for the program.**

24 (3) **A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction**
25 **of business.**

26 (4) **Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**
27 **of the task force.**

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

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 **(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 and the recommendations described in subsection**
7 **(2) of this section to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to business**
8 **and labor no later than September 15, 2016.**

9 **(10) The Department of Consumer and Business Services shall provide staff support to**
10 **the task force.**

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

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

21 **SECTION 3.** **Sections 1 and 2 of this 2015 Act are repealed on December 31, 2016.**

22 **SECTION 4.** **This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
23 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect**
24 **on its passage.**