

Senate Bill 638

Sponsored by Senators KNOPP, BOQUIST; Senators HANSELL, HASS

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**.

Authorizes county governing bodies to appoint county volunteer veterans' ombudsmen to provide support services and assistance to veterans and their spouses, dependents and survivors that are not provided by county veterans' service officers.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to county volunteer veterans' ombudsmen.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The county governing body in each county may appoint a county volun-**
5 **teer veterans' ombudsman to provide support services and assistance to veterans, spouses**
6 **and dependents of veterans and survivors of veterans within the county. Services and as-**
7 **sistance provided by the county volunteer veterans' ombudsman shall not duplicate services**
8 **provided by county veterans' service officers appointed under ORS 408.410, as described in**
9 **ORS 406.450. The county volunteer veterans' ombudsman may provide additional information**
10 **and aid that is not available through the county veterans' service officer within the county.**

11 **(2) The county volunteer veterans' ombudsman shall serve as a volunteer and receive no**
12 **compensation or reimbursement for expenses, except that the county governing body may**
13 **provide the ombudsman with business cards bearing the county's official logo and with office**
14 **space and equipment, if available or necessary. Expenditures made pursuant to this sub-**
15 **section, if any, must be made from the county funds described in ORS 408.720.**

16 **(3) A county volunteer veterans' ombudsman shall have the following qualifications and**
17 **experience:**

18 **(a) Positive interactions and connections with the local community and local service**
19 **providers for veterans;**

20 **(b) Knowledge of support services and programs for food, shelter and health care within**
21 **the county;**

22 **(c) Familiarity with the county veterans' service officer within the county;**

23 **(d) Familiarity with the local community mental health system;**

24 **(e) Experience with parole and probation officers in the county; and**

25 **(f) Knowledge of the standards to which county personnel, including employees and vol-**
26 **unteers, are held.**

27 **(4) As used in this section:**

28 **(a) "Survivor" means the spouse or a dependent of a deceased veteran.**

29 **(b) "Veteran" has the meaning given that term in ORS 408.225.**

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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.