HB 2838-3 (LC 2957) 4/16/15 (BLS/ps)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2838

1 On <u>page 1</u> of the printed bill, line 2, after "veterans" insert "; and de-2 claring an emergency".

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

4 "<u>SECTION 1.</u> (1) The Task Force on Incarcerated Veterans is es-5 tablished, consisting of eight members appointed as follows:

6 "(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from
7 among members of the Senate.

"(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two
members from among members of the House of Representatives.

"(c) The Director of Veterans' Affairs shall appoint one representative from the Department of Veterans' Affairs with expertise in
 services and benefits for incarcerated veterans.

"(d) The Director of the Department of Corrections shall appoint
 one representative from the Department of Corrections with experi ence with incarcerated veterans.

"(e) The Governor shall appoint two individuals who have been
 incarcerated veterans or who have had experience with incarcerated
 veterans.

"(2) The task force shall research, study and make recommen dations regarding the following:

"(a) Outreach that may be done to incarcerated veterans with information about veterans' benefits and other benefit programs that 1 provide services and resources to incarcerated veterans;

"(b) Assistance that may be available for incarcerated veterans in
applying for federal and state veterans' benefits and aid to which
incarcerated veteran may be entitled on account of the incarcerated
veterans' military service;

6 "(c) Assistance that may be available to incarcerated veterans in 7 appealing any denial of veterans' benefits or aid;

8 "(d) Informational materials that may be created for incarcerated
9 veterans;

"(e) The process and recommendations for developing a compre hensive and coordinated statewide network of information and referral
 resources for incarcerated veterans; and

"(f) Recommendations for how the Department of Veterans' Affairs
 may serve as a liaison for incarcerated veterans and incarcerated
 veterans issues with the Department of Corrections, reentry councils,
 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and others.

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

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

21 **"(5)** The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as 22 chairperson.

"(6) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority
 shall make an appointment to become immediately effective.

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

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

30 "(9) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided

by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to
the interim legislative committees with subject matter jurisdiction of
veterans' affairs no later than September 15, 2016.

4 "(10) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall provide staff sup5 port to the task force.

"(11) Members of the task force who are not members of the Leg-6 islative Assembly are not entitled to compensation, but may be reim-7 bursed for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by 8 them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and 9 amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in 10 performing functions of the task force shall be paid out of funds ap-11 propriated to the Department of Veterans' Affairs for purposes of the 12task force. 13

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

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

"<u>SECTION 3.</u> This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate
preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is
declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect on its passage.".

24