

## **HB 2689 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness**

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**Prepared By:** Bradley Volk, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 3/9

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Establishes the Task Force on Innovative Housing Strategies for Veterans to study strategies to house low income veterans and their families, including the creation of a housing authority to acquire real estate and other assets during economic downturns, and report to the Legislature by September 15, 2018. Sunsets December 31, 2018. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

*FISCAL: Revenue Impact Statement Issued - Indeterminate*

*REVENUE: No Revenue Impact*

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

A 2015 Point in Time Count for Homelessness in Oregon concluded that of the 13,176 people identified as homeless on a single night, 1,467 were homeless veterans. This is 11% of the entire homeless population. Fifty-three percent of these homeless veterans were sheltered and 47% were living in unsheltered locations. The vast majority (89% or 1,302) of homeless veterans were men, but 156 were women and five were transgender. Forty percent of homeless veterans were chronically homeless, and chronically homeless veterans make up 62% of the unsheltered homeless veteran population.

House Bill 2689 establishes a task force to study innovative strategies to provide housing to veterans and veterans' families, develop viable implementation plans, and report to the Legislature on findings and plans for implementation.