

SB 796 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

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Meeting Dates: 3/7, 4/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates parking permit for individuals with service-connected disabilities of at least 50 percent, with "Oregon Wounded Warrior" designation, allowing them to occupy public, time-limited and metered spaces without penalty or payment. Directs Oregon Department of Transportation to implement as specified. Becomes operative January 1, 2018. Declares emergency, takes effect on passage.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Providing something extra for disabled veterans
- Existing parking permits for disabled persons
- Implementation alternatives to reduce fiscal impact
- Financial impact on cities

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

[-1 amendment] Conforms language concerning service and type of discharge for consistency with existing law.

BACKGROUND:

Current law provides certain parking privileges for disabled persons. A standard placard allows parking in designated spaces. A "wheelchair user" permit allows parking in spaces designated for wheelchairs only; for free in metered spaces; and in time-limited spaces for longer than otherwise allowed. Local jurisdictions also have the discretion to authorize additional privileges to individuals with standard placards.

Senate Bill 796 creates an "Oregon Wounded Warrior" parking designation for certain qualifying disabled veterans, to allow them to park for free and without penalty in metered and time-limited public spaces.