

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 143 - A3

79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Measure Description:

Directs Advisory Committee to review, consider and report to interim legislative committees relating to veterans no later than February 1, 2018, regarding programs to establish or expand campus veteran resource centers and campus veteran resource coordinators on campuses of community colleges and public universities to help veterans successfully transition from military service to college life, succeed in college, complete educational goals and transition from college to workforce and community.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Counties, Department of Veterans' Affairs, public universities listed in ORS 352.002, community colleges defined in ORS 341.005

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2017-19 Biennium	2019-21 Biennium
Lottery Funds	1,187,194	204,211
Total Funds	\$1,187,194	\$204,211
Positions	1	1
FTE	0.92	1.00

Analysis:

The bill requires the Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), in collaboration with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, to administer one or more competitive grant programs to expand existing veterans resource centers on college campuses. Grant awards to community colleges and public universities will be based on a number of criteria specified by the bill, including that veterans resource centers refer veterans to local county veteran's service officers and that the institutions of higher education provide resources and matching funds in an amount to be determined by ODVA. Grant recipients may use up to \$25,000 of grant funds awarded to pay campus veteran resource coordinators salary if the institution agrees to match at least 50% of those funds. ODVA may award grants in any amount determined to further the purpose of the grant program, but cannot exceed \$100,000. Grant recipients must provide a program report to ODVA, within 30 days after each calendar quarter, that provides an accounting of expended grant funds as well as a report on current program information and outcomes. ODVA may allocate up to 10% of the total funds appropriated for the bill to pay for administrative expenses incurred in establishing and implementing the grant program. The bill has a \$1.10 million Lottery Fund appropriation clause for the 2017-19 biennium and also permits ODVA to solicit and receive funds from alternative sources for the purpose of implementing the bill. ODVA must submit a report on the implementation of the grant program to the interim legislative committee relating to veterans no later than August 31, 2018; the Advisory Committee to the Director of Veterans' Affairs must submit a review of the grant program to interim legislative committee relating to veterans no later than September 15, 2018.

Staffing for the grant program and legislative reporting is anticipated to require one permanent Program Analyst 2 position (0.92 FTE) at a cost of \$187,194 Lottery Funds (LF) in the 2017-19 biennium and (1.00 FTE) \$204,211 LF in the 2019-21 biennium.. The \$1.1 million appropriation will be distributed in the amount of \$1.00 million in special payments to institutions of higher education for grants and \$100,000 for ODVA staffing costs; the bill will require an additional LF appropriation in the amount of

\$87,194 to fund the remainder of the ODVA administrative staffing costs in the 2017-19 biennium. This analysis makes no speculation as the amount of special payments for grant funds in the 2019-21 biennium, however it is assumed that such a funding appropriation will be made and therefore staffing costs have been accounted for.

It is assumed that existing expenditures by higher education institutions, for campus veteran resource centers and coordinators, will be sufficient to meet the matching funds requirement for the grant program and additional funding contributions will not be necessary. Any fiscal impacts to counties, related to veterans service officers workload, is assumed to be within existing budgetary parameters.