

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

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

**Measure: SB 143 - A4**

***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

**Analysis:**

The bill requires the Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), in collaboration with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, to administer two grant programs to establish new or 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 resource officers and that the institutions of higher education provide resources and matching funds in an amount to be determined by ODVA. In addition to awarding grants, ODVA is required to train, provide technical assistance, and create opportunities for campus veteran coordinators to network with each other. The bill has a blank 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.

Staffing for the grant program and the workload associated with training for county veteran resource officers 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. Hosting of an annual two-day conference for campus veteran coordinators is estimated to cost \$24,700 per biennium for facility rental costs, food, professional speakers and materials. Grant award amounts and quantities are not specified by the bill therefore this analysis makes no speculation as to the amount of special payments for grant funds; 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.