



United Veterans' Groups of Oregon (UVGO)

**Air Force
Association**

14 June 2017

American Legion

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301

The 40 & 8

Distinguished members of the committee:

**Disabled
American
Veterans**

The Nine veteran organizations that make up the **United Veterans' Groups of Oregon (UVGO)** wanted to officially convey to you our combined hopes in regards to the 1.5 % Lottery Revenue earmarked for veterans as a result of Ballot Measure 96.

**Military Officer's
Association
Of America**

Attached you will find our UVGO Measure 96 Funding Priorities that outlines our **Guiding Principles** and our **Suggestions for Expenditures of Lottery Funds** that the member organizations of UVGO have unanimously agreed to.

**Military Order
Of The
Purple Heart**

It is our hope that you will consider these suggestions while you are working to resolve the budget for ODVA for the next few years as well as the myriad of other issues facing the veterans of Oregon.

**Paralyzed
Veterans
Of America**

In that vein, We strongly encourage you to vote in support of full implementation of all monies associated with passage of Measure 96, to include \$10.1 million in general funds. As you know, Measure 96 passed overwhelmingly by Oregon voters and members of the Legislature are now proposing significant cuts to the Governor's budget. To undercut funding will be viewed as an insult to every Oregon Veteran and to every one of the 1.6 million Oregonians who voted in support of Measure 96 on November 8.

**The Retired
Enlisted
Association**

Respectfully,

**Vietnam
Veterans
Of America**

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"In Service to Oregon Military Veterans"

UVGO Measure 96 Funding Priorities

Guiding Principles:

1. Expenditure of lottery funds should have a state-wide impact
 - a. No veteran should be denied access to benefits because of his or her geographical location
2. All lottery funds should have an audit measure to record outcome of expenditures
 - a. All lottery funds should flow through ODVA for accountability and transparency
 - b. UVGO is proposing the creation at ODVA of a committee/group responsible for establishing the priority of potential projects being submitted for consideration of lottery funds, in which UVGO will have a voting member
3. All lottery funds should be used in support of Oregon veterans and their families, and not duplicate federal funds
4. No lottery funds should replace ODVA's General Funds
5. All lottery funds should be used in support of all veterans and their families, and not designated for one sub-group
6. A large percentage of lottery funds should be allocated for direct veteran support and not allocated for administrative support

Suggestions for Expenditure of Lottery Funds:

Priority	Description	Biennial Amount
1	Increase the number of Service Officers statewide (ODVA, counties, organizations i.e. DAV Legion, etc.)	\$12,000,000
2	State Van Transportation Network. The DAV Department of Oregon operates a state-wide fleet of vehicles, driven by volunteer drivers, to transport veterans free of charge to Veterans Affairs medical facilities across the state. From 1/1/2016 to 9/30/2016, the network transported 15,487 veterans 504,260 miles to and from the three VA Medical Centers	\$500,000
3	Increase level of funding for the ODVA Emergency Assistance Fund	\$2,000,000
4	Provide funding for Lines for Life	\$350,000
5	Veterans Transitional Housing	\$2,000,000
6	Central Oregon Veterans Ranch	\$452,000
7	Veterans Contingency Fund	\$2,000,000
8	Veterans Educational Aid program	\$500,000