

HB 3341 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 04/05/17

Action: Do pass with amendments
and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 8-0-1-0

Yeas: 8 - Alonso Leon, Buehler, Greenlick, Hayden, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Malstrom, Nosse

Exc: 1 - Hack

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes an 11-member Task Force on Rural Medical Training Facilities. Directs the task force to investigate issues related to alleviating the shortage of skilled and experienced nurses and medical technicians in or near Douglas County. Specifies membership composition and clarifies that the task force can examine methods of reintegration into society through higher learning and career training for veterans. Specifies that a representative from the Roseburg VA Medical Center participate. Specifies that the task force will vote to appoint the appropriate academic institution representative to the task force. Sunsets December 31, 2018. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Intent of the task force
- Positive economic impact to Douglas County
- Current shortage of trained nurses and medical technicians
- Role of Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Importance of reintegration efforts for veterans
- Proposed amendment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Changes the staffing requirement from Oregon Health Authority to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA). Specifies that a representative from the Roseburg VA Medical Center participate. Specifies that the task force will vote to appoint the appropriate academic institution representative to the task force. Clarifies that the task force can examine methods of reintegration into society through higher learning and career training for veterans.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 3341-A establishes a task force to locate an academic partner for the Douglas County Allied Health Medical Training Facility to assist with the shortage of trained nurses and medical technicians. Currently, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has soldiers ready for reintegration who wish to use the GI Bill toward nursing and medical technician training. The VA has asked for 1,200 student vacancies to be filled by returning enlisted veterans. The Task Force on Rural Medical Training Facilities is charged with examining issues related to alleviating the shortage of skilled and experienced nurses and medical technicians in the city of Roseburg and in Douglas County.