SB 116 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 06/01/17

Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 7-0-1-0

Yeas: 7 - Esquivel, Evans, Lewis, Lively, Meek, Parrish, Post

Exc: 1 - Boone

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact **Revenue:** No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to honor existing State Parks and Recreation Department (SPRD) access pass issued to disabled veterans and to service members on leave from active duty on specific holidays to the extent possible.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Unique number associated with SPRD access pass can be used in forest areas
- Current SPRD access pass typically valid for four years
- Differences between areas managed by SPRD and ODF

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon offers a wide range of outdoor recreational opportunities, which attracts veterans and other residents. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife currently offers a permanent combined hunting and fishing license for qualifying disabled veterans, and the State Parks and Recreation Department (SPRD) provides free day use and camping at RV and tent sites year-round for disabled veterans and for persons on leave from active military duty on Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

Senate Bill 116 A provides similar free access to recreation areas on state *forest* lands by directing the Oregon Department of Forestry to honor the access pass already issued by SPRD.

Carrier: Rep. Lewis, Rep. Post