

Requested by Representative MEEK

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
A-ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 143**

1 Delete lines 4 through 13 of the printed A-engrossed bill and insert:

2 **“SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

3 **“(a) ‘Community college’ has the meaning given that term in ORS**  
4 **341.005.**

5 **“(b) ‘Public university’ means a public university listed in ORS**  
6 **352.002.**

7 **“(c) ‘Veteran’ has the meaning given that term in ORS 408.225.**

8 **“(2) The Department of Veterans Affairs shall develop and imple-**  
9 **ment one or more conditional grant programs statewide to expand**  
10 **campus veteran resource centers on the campuses of Oregon commu-**  
11 **nity colleges and public universities. The purpose of the grant pro-**  
12 **grams is to augment existing campus programs that help veterans**  
13 **successfully transition from military service to college life, succeed in**  
14 **college, complete educational goals and transition from college to the**  
15 **workforce and the community.**

16 **“(3)(a) The department shall award grants under this section on an**  
17 **annual, competitive basis to community colleges and public universi-**  
18 **ties based on proposals submitted by the colleges and universities un-**  
19 **der subsection (5) of this section that:**

20 **“(A) Expand and enhance existing campus veteran resource centers**  
21 **on campus premises;**

1       **“(B) Recruit and employ campus veteran resource coordinators who**  
2 **can serve as liaisons to provide advocacy, understanding and resource**  
3 **connections for veterans;**

4       **“(C) Attract veterans to enroll in and attend educational programs**  
5 **at community colleges and public universities;**

6       **“(D) Provide assistance, guidance and support to veterans in com-**  
7 **pleting educational goals and objectives;**

8       **“(E) Provide resources to college administrations, faculty and staff**  
9 **to facilitate an understanding and appreciation of the strengths,**  
10 **unique challenges and needs of veterans and their families;**

11       **“(F) Refer campus veterans to local county veterans’ service offi-**  
12 **cers appointed under ORS 408.410 who assist veterans in obtaining**  
13 **federal and state veteran benefits;**

14       **“(G) Assist veterans in successfully transitioning to work and**  
15 **community life by connecting veterans with workforce and employ-**  
16 **ment resources; and**

17       **“(H) Provide resources and matching funds in an amount to be de-**  
18 **termined by the department.**

19       **“(b) For the purpose of awarding grants under this section, the de-**  
20 **partment shall make funds available statewide while concentrating**  
21 **funds and resources in those areas of the state with the greatest need**  
22 **for veteran assistance programs, as determined by the department.**

23       **“(c) Grant recipients may use grant funds awarded under this sec-**  
24 **tion for the expansion and enhancement of existing campus veteran**  
25 **resource center programs, including training campus veteran coordi-**  
26 **nators, purchasing computer and other equipment and supplies, hiring**  
27 **additional staff, hosting veteran events, facilitating access to**  
28 **workforce and community resources that were not previously available**  
29 **and meeting other identified needs for the successful and continued**  
30 **operation of the existing centers and coordinators.**

1       “(d) A grant recipient may use up to \$25,000 of grant funds awarded  
2 under this section to pay a campus veteran resource coordinator’s  
3 salary if the grant recipient commits to matching at least 50 percent  
4 of grant funds used for that purpose.

5       “(e) Grant recipients may not use grant funds awarded under this  
6 section to duplicate services provided by county veterans’ service of-  
7 ficers appointed under ORS 408.410, as described in ORS 406.450. How-  
8 ever, grant recipients may use grant funds awarded under this section  
9 to provide additional information and aid that is not available through  
10 county veterans’ service officers.

11       “(4) A community college or public university may submit a grant  
12 proposal under subsection (5) of this section if the community college  
13 or public university:

14       “(a) Is located in Oregon;

15       “(b) Has an existing campus veteran resource center;

16       “(c) Has, or intends to hire prior to the distribution of grant funds,  
17 a campus veteran resource coordinator;

18       “(d) Meets, or intends to meet prior to the distribution of grant  
19 funds, a majority of the criteria under subsection (3)(a) of this section;  
20 and

21       “(e) Demonstrates its capacity to administer any funds awarded  
22 under this section in compliance with the requirements of this section  
23 and all applicable federal and state laws.

24       “(5) A community college or public university that meets the re-  
25 quirements of subsection (4) of this section may apply for grant funds  
26 under this section by submitting a grant proposal to the department  
27 in the form determined by the department.

28       “(6)(a) The department shall develop a formula for scoring grant  
29 proposals submitted under subsection (5) of this section. The formula  
30 must be based on a maximum score of 100 points, to be allocated as

1 follows:

2 “(A) 10 percent based on the applicant’s ability to meet the grant  
3 program objectives;

4 “(B) 15 percent based on the applicant’s readiness to proceed;

5 “(C) 20 percent based on the applicant’s experience running a cam-  
6 pus veteran resource center;

7 “(D) 15 percent based on the applicant’s service area;

8 “(E) 10 percent based on the applicant’s overall budget;

9 “(F) 20 percent based on the applicant’s ability to address any gaps  
10 in existing veteran-specific projects;

11 “(G) 5 percent based on the applicant’s projected outreach to vet-  
12 erans; and

13 “(H) 5 percent based on the applicant’s proposed administration of  
14 grant funds.

15 “(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, in deter-  
16 mining which grant proposals to fund, the department may:

17 “(A) Give priority to those proposals that the department deter-  
18 mines are best designed to help veterans successfully transition from  
19 military service to college life, succeed in college, completed educa-  
20 tional goals and transition from college to the workforce and the  
21 community; or

22 “(B) Concentrate funds and resources in those areas of the state  
23 with the greatest need for veteran assistance programs, as determined  
24 by the department.

25 “(7)(a) The department shall award grant funds to a successful ap-  
26 plicant in an amount equal to the lesser of:

27 “(A) The amount supported by the applicant’s application;

28 “(B) \$100,000; or

29 “(C) Any other amount determined by the department to further  
30 the purpose of the grant program.

1       **“(b) The department shall issue a grant award letter to the appli-**  
2 **cant setting forth a grant recipient’s reporting requirements under**  
3 **subsection (8) of this section and describing the restrictions on the use**  
4 **of grant funds under subsection (3) of this section and as may be de-**  
5 **termined by the department.**

6       **“(c) The grant recipient may not use grant funds for purposes other**  
7 **than those designated by the department in the recipient’s award let-**  
8 **ter.**

9       **“(8) Within 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter, each**  
10 **grant recipient shall provide a program report to the department. The**  
11 **quarterly report must include a narrative of the following:**

12       **“(a) Summary of program activities;**

13       **“(b) Description of program successes;**

14       **“(c) Discussion of challenges the grant recipient has encountered**  
15 **implementing the program;**

16       **“(d) Accounting of how grant funds have been used; and**

17       **“(e) Any other information the department requires.**

18       **“(9) The department may allocate up to eight percent of total funds**  
19 **appropriated to the department for purposes of the grant programs**  
20 **established under this section for the payment of administrative ex-**  
21 **penses incurred in establishing and administering the grant programs.**

22       **“(10) The department may collaborate with the Higher Education**  
23 **Coordinating Commission in developing and implementing the pro-**  
24 **grams established under this section.**

25       **“(11) The department may solicit and accept gifts, grants and do-**  
26 **nations from public and private sources to further the purposes of this**  
27 **section.**

28       **“(12) The department may adopt rules to implement the provisions**  
29 **of this section.**

30       **“SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-**

1 ation, there is appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs, for  
2 the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, out of the veterans' services fund  
3 established under Article XV, section 4f, of the Oregon Constitution,  
4 the amount of \$1,100,000, which may be expended for the purposes of  
5 implementing section 1 of this 2017 Act.

6 **SECTION 3.** No later than August 31, 2018, the Department of  
7 Veterans Affairs shall report to the interim legislative committees  
8 relating to veterans on the implementation of the grant programs es-  
9 tablished under section 1 of this 2017 Act and on further steps required  
10 to expand the programs during the 2019-2021 biennium. The depart-  
11 ment shall report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 and may in-  
12 clude recommendations for legislation.

13 **SECTION 4.** This 2017 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the  
14 date on which the 2017 regular session of the Seventy-ninth Legislative  
15 Assembly adjourns sine die.”.

16

---