

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 multiple one-time grants under**
17 **this section during the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, on a compet-**
18 **itive basis to community colleges and public universities based on**
19 **proposals submitted by the colleges and universities under subsection**
20 **(5) of this section that:**

21 **“(A) Expand and enhance existing campus veteran resource centers**

1 on campus premises;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

28 “(c) A grant recipient may use up to \$25,000 of grant funds awarded
29 under this section to pay a campus veteran resource coordinator’s
30 salary if the grant recipient commits to matching at least 50 percent

1 of grant funds used for that purpose.

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

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

11 “(a) Is located in Oregon;

12 “(b) Has an existing campus veteran resource center or has, or in-
13 tends to hire prior to the distribution of grant funds, a campus veteran
14 resource coordinator;

15 “(c) Meets, or intends to meet prior to the distribution of grant
16 funds, a majority of the criteria under subsection (3)(a) of this section;
17 and

18 “(d) Demonstrates its capacity to administer any funds awarded
19 under this section in compliance with the requirements of this section
20 and all applicable federal and state laws.

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

25 “(6) When determining which grant proposals to fund, the depart-
26 ment shall make funds available statewide and may:

27 “(a) Give priority to those proposals that the department deter-
28 mines are best designed to help veterans successfully transition from
29 military service to college life, succeed in college, complete educa-
30 tional goals and transition from college to the workforce and the

1 **community; or**

2 **“(b) Concentrate funds and resources in those areas of the state**
3 **with the greatest need for veteran assistance programs, as determined**
4 **by the department.**

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

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

8 **“(B) \$100,000; or**

9 **“(C) Any other amount determined by the department to further**
10 **the purpose of the grant program.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

28 **“(9) The department may allocate up to 10 percent of total funds**
29 **appropriated to the department for purposes of the grant programs**
30 **established under this section for the payment of administrative ex-**

1 penses incurred in establishing and administering the grant programs.

2 “(10) The department may collaborate with the Higher Education
3 Coordinating Commission in developing and implementing the pro-
4 grams established under this section.

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

8 “(12) The department shall adopt rules that prescribe:

9 “(a) The procedures for the grant application process, including
10 grant review and approval;

11 “(b) Grant recipient reporting requirements;

12 “(c) Measurable goals and outcome requirements;

13 “(d) Allowable uses of grant funds;

14 “(e) Procedures for disbursement of grant funds;

15 “(f) Recordkeeping requirements; and

16 “(g) Any additional procedures the department determines neces-
17 sary to implement the provisions of this section.

18 “SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-
19 ation, there is appropriated to the Department of Veterans’ Affairs,
20 for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, out of the veterans’ services
21 fund established under Article XV, section 4f, of the Oregon Consti-
22 tution, the amount of \$1,100,000, which may be expended for the pur-
23 poses of implementing section 1 of this 2017 Act.

24 “SECTION 3. No later than August 31, 2018, the Department of
25 Veterans’ Affairs shall report to the interim legislative committees
26 relating to veterans on the implementation of the grant programs es-
27 tablished under section 1 of this 2017 Act and on further steps required
28 to expand the programs during the 2019-2021 biennium. The depart-
29 ment shall report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 and may in-
30 clude recommendations for legislation.

1 **“SECTION 4. No later than September 15, 2018, the Advisory Com-**
2 **mittee appointed under ORS 406.210 shall review and consider the**
3 **grant programs established under section 1 of this 2017 Act, including**
4 **the quarterly reports submitted by the grant recipients under section**
5 **1 (8) of this 2017 Act and the report prepared by the Department of**
6 **Veterans’ Affairs under section 3 of this 2017 Act, and report to the**
7 **interim legislative committees relating to veterans. The Advisory**
8 **Committee shall evaluate the merits of the grant programs, how**
9 **grants were awarded to community colleges and public universities**
10 **and how grant funds were used by grant recipients. The report must**
11 **address funding priorities for implementation of legislation that will**
12 **accomplish one or more of the purposes and objectives of this 2017 Act**
13 **and make recommendations for legislation.**

14 **“SECTION 5. Sections 1 to 4 of this 2017 Act are repealed on Janu-**
15 **ary 2, 2020.**

16 **“SECTION 6. This 2017 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the**
17 **date on which the 2017 regular session of the Seventy-ninth Legislative**
18 **Assembly adjourns sine die.”.**

19
