

Please Vote YES on HB 4098!

Background:

The Oregon Building Trades Council represents 30,000 Oregon construction workers in 22 member unions who collectively invest over \$10 million annually into their respective apprenticeship and training programs. The signatory contractors signed onto this letter represent over 200 Oregon businesses. Many Business Managers and signatory contractors believe the work ethic instilled in the military is a natural fit for the responsibilities of working on construction jobsites, such as showing up on time, following a chain of command and working hard. As a result, many veterans are given priority entry in our programs.

Summary:

HB 4098 directs the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) to make information available to veterans about apprenticeship and training programs and to host an annual training to educate agencies, local governments and private service organizations about how to promote vocational career opportunities to veterans.

In practice, HB 4098 will help promote apprenticeship and training opportunities to military service men and women after they have been discharged from active duty. The practical impact will be to help our veterans gain a full understanding of the civilian career opportunities that are available, what is entailed, how to sign up and what income and benefits they can expect to earn in each specific craft.

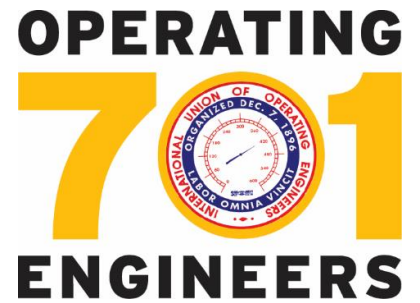
Why HB 4098 is Important for Veterans:

Employment is an important tool for helping our veterans reintegrate smoothly back into civilian life. A good job helps provide an individual with purpose—skills to develop, a craft to perfect and a network of support. The income generated from the job helps reduce instances of homelessness and the many unfortunate circumstances that can result. Employment benefits like employer-based healthcare helps to extend a veteran's healthcare coverage to the veteran's spouse and children.

While there is no silver bullet solution to ensure every veteran can reintegrate successfully back to civilian life, HB 4098 is a step in the right direction.

Please Vote YES on HB 4098!

HB 4098 is supported by labor and management:



ASSOCIATED WALL & CEILING CONTRACTORS
of Oregon and S.W. Washington, Inc.