

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Directs Department of Veterans' Affairs to establish and administer program to acquire and manage residential properties for benefit of veterans who are experiencing, or are at risk of experiencing, housing instability. Authorizes department to enter into agreements with private entities to administer program.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to housing for veterans.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall establish and administer a program to purchase and manage residential properties for the benefit of veterans, as described in this section.

(2) Under the program, the department shall purchase single-family or multifamily residential properties from moneys in the Veterans Housing Capacity Investment Fund established under section 3 of this 2021 Act. When acquiring a property, the department may not pay more than 90 percent of the fair market value of a property.

(3) The department shall rent or otherwise temporarily provide properties acquired under the program to veterans who are experiencing, or are at risk of experiencing, housing instability. The department shall enter into a lease agreement with a veteran before providing a property to the veteran. The lease agreement must contain terms adequately protecting the department's interest in the property.

(4) The department shall take the following factors into account when determining whether to acquire a particular property:

1 (a) The proximity of the property to veterans who are experiencing,
2 or are at risk of experiencing, housing instability; and

3 (b) The proximity of the property to agencies or entities that pro-
4 vide services to veterans.

5 (5) The department may enter into agreements with private entities
6 to administer the program described in this section.

7 (6) The department may sell or otherwise dispose of properties ac-
8 quired under this section, if the department determines that doing so
9 is in the best interest of veterans. Any moneys derived from the sale
10 or disposal of a property under this section must be deposited in the
11 Veterans Housing Capacity Investment Fund.

12 (7) The department shall adopt rules necessary for the adminis-
13 tration of this section.

14 (8) As used in this section, “veteran” has the meaning given that
15 term in ORS 408.225.

16 SECTION 2. The Department of Veterans’ Affairs shall establish
17 and utilize the office of the Housing Security Coordinator to manage
18 the program established under section 1 of this 2021 Act and to carry
19 out other duties as may be established by law.

20 SECTION 3. The Veterans Housing Capacity Investment Fund is
21 established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the
22 General Fund. The Veterans Housing Capacity Investment Fund con-
23 sists of moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the
24 fund by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise. Moneys in the fund
25 are continuously appropriated to the Department of Veterans’ Affairs
26 to carry out the provisions of section 1 of this 2021 Act.