

SB 308 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 02/20/19

Action: Do pass with amendments. Refer to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng).

Vote: 4-0-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Monnes Anderson, Olsen, President Courtney

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: C. Ross, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/13, 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to convene an advisory committee, comprised of service-disabled veterans in possession of a Special Access Pass and a representative from the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, at a minimum, to recommend improvements to its campsite reservation system. Allows OPRD to develop a means to test changes to its campsite reservation process to improve access for service-disabled veterans. Requires report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2021. Sunsets January 2, 2023. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- OPRD seeking input from disabled veterans about changes to reservation system
- Amendment to eliminate potential fiscal impact
- Whether to recommend rescission of subsequent referral

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Refines language, modifying advisory committee's role to research and recommend changes to OPRD's campsite reservation system, and makes discretionary OPRD's development of means to test recommended changes.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon boasts a wide range of outdoor recreational opportunities and improves the participation of eligible disabled veterans in a number of ways, including: offering a permanent combined hunting and fishing license through Oregon Fish and Wildlife; free day use and camping at RV and tent sites year-round for service-connected disabled veterans using a Special Access Pass; and refunds for such use by U.S. Armed Forces active duty personnel on leave on Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day, available through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD).

Senate Bill 308 A requires OPRD to convene an advisory committee to recommend changes to its campsite reservation system, comprised of service-disabled veterans and a representative from the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, at a minimum, and to report back to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2021.