

Senate Bill 35

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SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Exempts Department of Veterans' Affairs from requirement to include vouchers for disbursements with conservator's accounting to court.

Makes permanent campus veteran resources grant programs.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to veterans; amending ORS 125.475 and sections 1 and 5, chapter 731, Oregon Laws 2017.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** ORS 125.475 is amended to read:

4 125.475. (1) Unless the court by order provides otherwise, a conservator shall account to the
5 court for the administration of the protected estate within 60 days after each anniversary of ap-
6 pointment. In addition, a conservator shall account to the court for the administration of the pro-
7 tected estate:
8

9 (a) Within 60 days after the death of the protected person, a minor protected person attains
10 majority or an adult protected person becomes able to manage the protected person's financial re-
11 sources; and

12 (b) Within 30 days after the removal of the conservator, the resignation of the conservator or
13 the termination of the conservator's authority under ORS 125.410 (7).

14 (2) Each accounting must include the following information:

15 (a) The period of time covered by the accounting.

16 (b) The total value of the property with which the conservator is chargeable according to the
17 inventory, or, if there was a prior accounting, the amount of the balance of the prior accounting.

18 (c) All money and property received during the period covered by the accounting.

19 (d) All disbursements made during the period covered by the accounting.

20 (e) The amount of bond posted by the conservator during the period covered by the accounting.

21 (f) With respect to conservators who are professional fiduciaries, the total amount of compen-
22 sation that investment advisers or brokers other than the professional fiduciary charged or received
23 in charges for investments managed or transacted by the investment advisers or brokers.

24 (g) Such other information as the conservator considers necessary, or that the court might re-
25 quire, for the purpose of disclosing the condition of the estate.

26 (3) Vouchers for disbursements must accompany the accounting unless otherwise provided by
27 order or rule of the court or unless the conservator is a trust company that has complied with ORS
28 709.030 **or is the Department of Veterans' Affairs**. If vouchers are not required, the conservator
29 shall:

30 (a) Maintain the vouchers for a period of not less than one year following the date on which the

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 order approving the final accounting is entered;

2 (b) Permit interested persons to inspect the vouchers and receive copies of the vouchers at their
 3 own expense at the place of business of the conservator during the conservator’s normal business
 4 hours at any time before the end of one year following the date on which the order approving the
 5 final accounting is entered; and

6 (c) Include in each annual accounting and the final accounting a statement that the vouchers
 7 are not filed with the accounting but are maintained by the conservator and may be inspected and
 8 copied as provided in this subsection.

9 (4) The court may waive a final accounting if:

10 (a) The conservator was appointed because the protected person was a minor, and the protected
 11 person has attained the age of majority, or the conservator was appointed because the protected
 12 person was financially incapable, and the protected person is no longer financially incapable;

13 (b) The protected person gives a receipt to the conservator for the property delivered to the
 14 protected person; and

15 (c) The conservator files with the court a copy of the receipt issued by the protected person to
 16 the conservator.

17 (5) Copies of accountings must be served on all persons listed in ORS 125.060 (3). The court may
 18 waive service on the protected person if service of the copy would not assist the protected person
 19 in understanding the proceedings.

20 (6) The court may require a conservator to submit to a physical check of the estate in the
 21 control of the conservator at any time and in any manner the court may specify.

22 (7) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may by rule specify the form and contents of ac-
 23 counts that must be filed by a conservator.

24 **SECTION 2.** Section 1, chapter 731, Oregon Laws 2017, is amended to read:

25 **Sec. 1.** (1) As used in this section:

26 (a) “Community college” has the meaning given that term in ORS 341.005.

27 (b) “Public university” means a public university listed in ORS 352.002.

28 (c) “Veteran” has the meaning given that term in ORS 408.225.

29 (2) The Department of Veterans’ Affairs shall develop and implement one or more conditional
 30 grant programs statewide to expand campus veteran resource centers on the campuses of Oregon
 31 community colleges and public universities. The purpose of the grant programs is to augment exist-
 32 ing campus programs that help veterans successfully transition from military service to college life,
 33 succeed in college, complete educational goals and transition from college to the workforce and the
 34 community.

35 (3)(a) The department shall award multiple one-time grants under this section [*during the*
 36 *biennium beginning July 1, 2017,*] on a competitive basis to community colleges and public universi-
 37 ties based on proposals submitted by the colleges and universities under subsection (5) of this sec-
 38 tion that:

39 (A) Expand and enhance existing campus veteran resource centers on campus premises;

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

42 (C) Attract veterans to enroll in and attend educational programs at community colleges and
 43 public universities;

44 (D) Provide assistance, guidance and support to veterans in completing educational goals and
 45 objectives;

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

3 (F) Refer campus veterans to local county veterans' service officers appointed under ORS
 4 408.410 who assist veterans in obtaining federal and state veteran benefits;

5 (G) Assist veterans in successfully transitioning to work and community life by connecting vet-
 6 erans with workforce and employment resources; and

7 (H) Provide resources and matching funds in an amount to be determined by the department.

8 (b) Grant recipients may use grant funds awarded under this section for the expansion and en-
 9 hancement of existing campus veteran resource center programs, including training campus veteran
 10 coordinators, purchasing computer and other equipment and supplies, hiring additional staff, hosting
 11 veteran events, facilitating access to workforce and community resources that were not previously
 12 available and meeting other identified needs for the successful and continued operation of the ex-
 13 isting centers and coordinators.

14 (c) A grant recipient may use up to \$25,000 of grant funds awarded under this section to pay a
 15 campus veteran resource coordinator's salary if the grant recipient commits to matching at least 50
 16 percent of grant funds used for that purpose.

17 (d) Grant recipients may not use grant funds awarded under this section to duplicate services
 18 provided by county veterans' service officers appointed under ORS 408.410, as described in ORS
 19 406.450. However, grant recipients may use grant funds awarded under this section to provide ad-
 20 ditional information and aid that is not available through county veterans' service officers.

21 (4) A community college or public university may submit a grant proposal under subsection (5)
 22 of this section if the community college or public university:

23 (a) Is located in Oregon;

24 (b) Has an existing campus veteran resource center or has, or intends to hire prior to the dis-
 25 tribution of grant funds, a campus veteran resource coordinator;

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

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

30 (5) A community college or public university that meets the requirements of subsection (4) of
 31 this section may apply for grant funds under this section by submitting a grant proposal to the de-
 32 partment in the form determined by the department.

33 (6) When determining which grant proposals to fund, the department shall make funds available
 34 statewide and may:

35 (a) Give priority to those proposals that the department determines are best designed to help
 36 veterans successfully transition from military service to college life, succeed in college, complete
 37 educational goals and transition from college to the workforce and the community; or

38 (b) Concentrate funds and resources in those areas of the state with the greatest need for vet-
 39 eran assistance programs, as determined by the department.

40 (7)(a) The department shall award grant funds to a successful applicant in an amount equal to
 41 the least of:

42 (A) The amount supported by the applicant's application;

43 (B) \$100,000; or

44 (C) Any other amount determined by the department to further the purpose of the grant pro-
 45 gram.

1 (b) The department shall issue a grant award letter to the applicant setting forth a grant
2 recipient's reporting requirements under subsection (8) of this section and describing the restrictions
3 on the use of grant funds under subsection (3) of this section and as may be determined by the de-
4 partment.

5 (c) The grant recipient may not use grant funds for purposes other than those designated by the
6 department in the recipient's award letter.

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

- 9 (a) Summary of program activities;
- 10 (b) Description of program successes;
- 11 (c) Discussion of challenges the grant recipient has encountered implementing the program;
- 12 (d) Accounting of how grant funds have been used; and
- 13 (e) Any other information the department requires.

14 (9) The department may collaborate with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission in de-
15 veloping and implementing the programs established under this section.

16 (10) The department may solicit and accept gifts, grants and donations from public and private
17 sources to further the purposes of this section.

18 (11) The department shall adopt rules that prescribe:

- 19 (a) The procedures for the grant application process, including grant review and approval;
- 20 (b) Grant recipient reporting requirements;
- 21 (c) Measurable goals and outcome requirements;
- 22 (d) Allowable uses of grant funds;
- 23 (e) Procedures for disbursement of grant funds;
- 24 (f) Recordkeeping requirements; and
- 25 (g) Any additional procedures the department determines necessary to implement the provisions

26 of this section.

27 **SECTION 3.** Section 5, chapter 731, Oregon Laws 2017, is amended to read:

28 **Sec. 5.** [*Sections 1 to 4 of this 2017 Act*] **Sections 3 and 4, chapter 731, Oregon Laws 2017,**
29 **are repealed on January 2, 2020.**