

Requested by JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
A-ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2201**

1 On page 1 of the printed A-engrossed bill, line 2, delete “and” and before
2 the period insert “; and declaring an emergency”.

3 Delete lines 4 through 24 and delete pages 2 and 3 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program**
5 **is established within the Department of Veterans’ Affairs. Under the**
6 **program, the department shall conduct outreach and provide grants**
7 **to veterans who:**

8 **“(a) Are pursuing and enrolled in an approved course of study in**
9 **any program for which United States Department of Veterans Affairs**
10 **education benefits may be used;**

11 **“(b) Are eligible to receive federal financial assistance based on**
12 **prior service in the Armed Forces of the United States; and**

13 **“(c) Are unable to complete a degree program within the expected**
14 **completion period because one or more required courses are not**
15 **available until a later date.**

16 **“(2) Grants under the program:**

17 **“(a) May not exceed \$5,000 per veteran; and**

18 **“(b) May be made only when there are sufficient moneys in the**
19 **Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program Fund established under**
20 **section 2 of this 2019 Act to make the grants.**

21 **“(3) The Department of Veterans’ Affairs shall adopt rules for the**

1 **implementation and operation of the program, including eligibility re-**
2 **quirements for grant applicants.**

3 **“(4) As used in this section, ‘veteran’ has the meaning given that**
4 **term in ORS 408.225 and includes disabled veterans, as defined in ORS**
5 **408.225.**

6 **“SECTION 2. (1) The Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program**
7 **Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from**
8 **the General Fund. The moneys in the Veteran Educational Bridge**
9 **Grant Program Fund are continuously appropriated to the Department**
10 **of Veterans’ Affairs for the purpose of making grants under the Vet-**
11 **eran Educational Bridge Grant Program established under section 1**
12 **of this 2019 Act and for the payment of actual and necessary expenses**
13 **incurred by the department in administering the fund and establishing**
14 **and maintaining the program.**

15 **“(2) The fund consists of:**

16 **“(a) Moneys appropriated, allocated or deposited to the fund by the**
17 **Legislative Assembly or otherwise;**

18 **“(b) Transfers of moneys to the fund from any source, including**
19 **moneys transferred from the Veterans’ Educational Aid Account de-**
20 **scribed in ORS 408.090; and**

21 **“(c) Moneys from gifts, donations or any other source.**

22 **“SECTION 3. ORS 408.090 is amended to read:**

23 **“408.090. (1) The Director of Veterans’ Affairs, acting on behalf of the**
24 **State of Oregon, is authorized to accept any donation, gift, grant, bequest**
25 **or devise made in furtherance of the purposes of ORS 408.010 to 408.090 and**
26 **section 1 of this 2019 Act[, and if]. A donation, gift, grant, bequest or**
27 **devise that is made in cash or its equivalent or reduced thereto, shall be**
28 **promptly paid by the director to the State Treasurer, who shall credit the**
29 **amount so received to the Veterans’ Educational Aid Account in the General**
30 **Fund. The director shall make such disposition of donations, gifts, grants,**

1 bequests or devises, not made in cash or its equivalent, as is specified by the
2 donor thereof, and their earnings and proceeds shall inure to said account.
3 All such donations, gifts, grants, bequests or devises accepted by the director
4 are transfers exempt from taxes imposed on inheritances under the laws of
5 this state.

6 “(2) All moneys in the Veterans’ Educational Aid Account are contin-
7 uously appropriated to the director and may be used by the director for the
8 purposes authorized in ORS 408.010 to 408.090 **and section 1 of this 2019**
9 **Act.**

10 **“SECTION 4. Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures,**
11 **the amount of \$447,719 is established for the biennium beginning July**
12 **1, 2019, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from lottery**
13 **moneys allocated from the Veterans’ Services Fund established under**
14 **ORS 406.140 to the Department of Veterans’ Affairs for the purpose of**
15 **implementing and administering the Veteran Educational Bridge**
16 **Grant Program established under section 1 of this 2019 Act.**

17 **“SECTION 5. The Department of Veterans’ Affairs shall prepare**
18 **and submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative As-**
19 **sembly related to veterans on or before September 15, 2020, regarding**
20 **the status of the Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program estab-**
21 **lished under section 1 of this 2019 Act.**

22 **“SECTION 6. (1) Sections 1 and 2 of this 2019 Act are repealed on**
23 **January 2, 2022.**

24 **“(2) Any moneys remaining in the Veteran Educational Bridge**
25 **Grant Program Fund established under section 2 of this 2019 Act on**
26 **January 2, 2022, after reversion of unspent lottery allocations to the**
27 **Veterans’ Service Fund established under ORS 406.140, shall be trans-**
28 **ferred to the Veterans’ Educational Aid Account established under**
29 **ORS 408.090.**

30 **“SECTION 7. ORS 408.090, as amended by section 3 of this 2019 Act, is**

1 amended to read:

2 “408.090. (1) The Director of Veterans’ Affairs, acting on behalf of the
3 State of Oregon, is authorized to accept any donation, gift, grant, bequest
4 or devise made in furtherance of the purposes of ORS 408.010 to 408.090 [*and*
5 *section 1 of this 2019 Act*]. A donation, gift, grant, bequest or devise that is
6 made in cash or its equivalent or reduced thereto, shall be promptly paid by
7 the director to the State Treasurer, who shall credit the amount so received
8 to the Veterans’ Educational Aid Account in the General Fund. The director
9 shall make such disposition of donations, gifts, grants, bequests or devises,
10 not made in cash or its equivalent, as is specified by the donor thereof, and
11 their earnings and proceeds shall inure to said account. All such donations,
12 gifts, grants, bequests or devises accepted by the director are transfers ex-
13 empt from taxes imposed on inheritances under the laws of this state.

14 “(2) All moneys in the Veterans’ Educational Aid Account are contin-
15 uously appropriated to the director and may be used by the director for the
16 purposes authorized in ORS 408.010 to 408.090 [*and section 1 of this 2019*
17 *Act*].

18 **“SECTION 8. The amendments to ORS 408.090 by section 7 of this**
19 **2019 Act become operative on January 2, 2022.**

20 **“SECTION 9. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate**
21 **preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is**
22 **declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect July 1, 2019.”.**

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