

**HB 4085 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness**

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**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/6, 2/11

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Transfers biennial appropriation from Department of Veterans' Affairs to Long Term Care Ombudsman for purpose of providing public guardian and conservator services exclusively to veterans. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator program
- Unused Measure 96 Lottery funds

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-1 Moves source of funding from General Fund to lottery moneys allocated from the Veterans' Services Fund.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: Has fiscal impact.

**BACKGROUND:**

Oregon veterans represent eight percent of the state's total population, but represent 12 percent of the state's chronically homeless population. Senate Bill 1553 (2014) directed the Long Term Care Ombudsman, in consultation with the Resident Facilities Advisory Committee, to appoint an Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator to provide services to persons claiming to be without relatives or friends willing or able to serve as guardians or conservators and claiming to lack financial resources to obtain a private guardian or conservator.

House Bill 4085 creates three positions within the Office of Long Term Care Ombudsman to support the Oregon Public Guardian and Conservator to provide services exclusively to veterans.