

**SCR 202 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Mitchell

**House Committee On Human Services and Housing**

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**Action Date:** 02/19/20

**Action:** Be Adopted.

**Vote:** 6-0-3-0

**Yeas:** 6 - Helt, Keny-Guyer, Mitchell, Schouten, Williams, Zika

**Exc:** 3 - Meek, Noble, Sanchez

**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Amie FenderSosa, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/19

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Commemorates 100th anniversary of federal Rehabilitation Act and celebrates success of vocational rehabilitation in supporting Oregonians with disabilities to achieve employment and join the workforce.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Types of eligible disabilities
- Expansion of the program over the years
- Services to overcome barriers; providing options for attaining employment
- Program housed in the Department of Human Services
- 100 anniversary; program recognition for service to Oregonians

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 1918, Congress enacted the Soldier's Rehabilitation Act which established a training program to help injured veterans find jobs matching their abilities. In 1920, Congress enacted the Civilian Vocational Rehabilitation Act, expanding the veteran's program to include any individual with a physical disability. Congress continued to amend the program through the 20th century, eventually partnering state and federal agencies that provide employment-related services in the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 includes provisions designed to improve access to high quality workforce services and competitive integrated employment for individuals with disabilities, including dedicated federal funds for state pre-employment transition services for students with disabilities.

In the 2018 fiscal year, Oregon's vocational rehabilitation program served more than 17,000 Oregonians with disabilities. The Youth Transition Program provides pre-employment transition services to students in approximately 120 high schools across the state.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 202 commemorates the 100th anniversary of the federal Rehabilitation Act and celebrates the success of vocational rehabilitation in supporting Oregonians with disabilities to achieve employment and join the workforce.