

# DRAFT

## SUMMARY

Provides that veteran must provide evidence of eligibility for veterans' preference in public employment at time of application for civil service position. Provides that evidence may include any documentation demonstrating preference eligibility.

Modifies law relating to interviews of veterans for vacant civil service positions. Provides that public employer that does not interview veteran must provide written explanation of reasons for decision.

Permits disabled veteran or surviving spouse of deceased disabled veteran to use state park, individual campsite or day use fee area without charge.

Directs Department of Veterans' Affairs to develop and implement programs that assist veterans to transition from military service to workforce or business community. Permits use of moneys in Veterans' Services Fund to develop, implement and maintain programs.

Directs department to develop and implement programs that assist veterans to transition into or maintain stable housing. Permits use of moneys in Veterans' Services Fund to develop, implement and maintain programs.

Requires department to report to Legislative Assembly regarding status of workforce and housing grant programs by September 15, 2024.

Repeals sunset on Veteran Educational Bridge Grant Program.

Exempts members of Oregon National Guard from Oregon Promise eligibility requirement that applicant first accept federal aid grants available to person.

Provides 100 percent property tax exemption for homestead or personal property of veteran aged 65 years or older with service-connected disabilities of 100 percent or more or surviving spouse of veteran who died from service-connected injury or illness or received at least one year of 100 percent exemption.

Repeals partial exemption for homestead of surviving spouse of veteran of American Civil War or Spanish-American War.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

1 Relating to military service members; creating new provisions; amending  
2 ORS 307.250, 307.260, 307.270, 341.522, 390.124, 408.090, 408.235 and 408.237;  
3 repealing ORS 307.283 and sections 6 and 8, chapter 527, Oregon Laws  
4 2019; and prescribing an effective date.

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

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7

## **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE**

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9 **SECTION 1.** ORS 408.235 is amended to read:

10 408.235. (1) A veteran is eligible to use the preference provided for in ORS  
11 408.230 for a civil service position for which application is made at any time  
12 after discharge or release from service in the Armed Forces.

13 (2) An individual is treated as a veteran for purposes of the preference  
14 provided for in ORS 408.230 if the individual:

15 (a) Meets the definition of “veteran” under ORS 408.225 except for the  
16 requirement that the individual was discharged or released under honorable  
17 conditions; and

18 (b) Submits a certification to the public employer that the individual is  
19 expected to be discharged or released from active duty under honorable  
20 conditions not later than 120 days after the submission of the certification.

21 (3) An individual is treated as a disabled veteran for purposes of the  
22 preference provided for in ORS 408.230 if the individual:

23 (a) Meets the definition of “veteran” under ORS 408.225 except for the  
24 requirement that the individual was discharged or released under honorable  
25 conditions; and

26 (b) Submits a certification to the public employer that the individual is  
27 expected to be medically separated from active duty under honorable condi-  
28 tions not later than 120 days after the submission of the certification.

29 **(4) A veteran must provide evidence of eligibility for the preference**  
30 **at the time the veteran makes application for the position. In addition**  
31 **to any certification that may be required under subsection (2) or (3)**

1 **of this section, a veteran may include as evidence federal DD Form**  
2 **214 or 215 or any other documentation demonstrating preference el-**  
3 **igibility. Failure to provide evidence at the time of application will**  
4 **disqualify the veteran from requesting use of the preference in the**  
5 **public employer's consideration of the veteran's application for the**  
6 **position.**

7 **SECTION 2.** ORS 408.237 is amended to read:

8 408.237. (1) As used in this section:

9 (a) "Eligibility list" means a list of ranked eligible candidates for a civil  
10 service position who have become eligible for the position through a test or  
11 series of tests and who will be considered for the civil service position in  
12 ranked order.

13 (b) "Transferable skill" means a skill that a veteran has obtained through  
14 military education or experience that substantially relates, directly or indi-  
15 rectly, to the civil service position for which the veteran is applying.

16 (2) When an interview is a component of the selection process for a civil  
17 service position or for an eligibility list for a civil service position, a public  
18 employer shall interview each veteran:

19 (a) Whom the public employer determines meets the minimum qualifica-  
20 tions and special qualifications for the civil service position or eligibility  
21 list; and

22 (b) Who submits application materials that the public employer deter-  
23 mines show sufficient evidence that the veteran has the transferable skills  
24 required and requested by the public employer for the civil service position  
25 or eligibility list.

26 *[(3) A public employer is not required to comply with subsection (2) of this*  
27 *section if the employer conducts interviews only as part of the process of se-*  
28 *lecting a candidate for a civil service position from an eligibility list.]*

29 **(3) If a public employer does not interview a veteran who applies**  
30 **for a civil service position, the public employer shall, within 14 days**  
31 **of the decision not to interview the veteran, provide to the veteran a**

1 **written explanation of the employer's reasons for the decision not to**  
2 **interview the veteran.**

3 (4) A public employer may consult with the Oregon Military Department  
4 and the Department of Veterans' Affairs to determine whether certain mili-  
5 tary education or experience produces a transferable skill.

6 (5) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall provide training to veterans  
7 on how to show evidence of transferable skills in an application for a civil  
8 service position or eligibility list.

9 (6) Violation of subsection (2) of this section is an unlawful employment  
10 practice under ORS chapter 659A.

11 (7) A veteran claiming to be aggrieved by a violation of subsection (2) of  
12 this section may file a complaint under ORS 659A.820.

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## **STATE PARK PASS**

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16 **SECTION 3.** ORS 390.124 is amended to read:

17 390.124. (1) In accordance with any applicable provision of ORS chapter  
18 183, the State Parks and Recreation Commission may adopt rules necessary  
19 to carry out the duties, functions and powers imposed by law upon the  
20 commission and the State Parks and Recreation Department. Rules adopted  
21 pursuant to this section shall be duly entered in the minutes and records of  
22 the commission.

23 (2)(a) The commission may adopt by rule a schedule setting forth the  
24 range of reasonable charges that may be assessed for the use of areas es-  
25 tablished and maintained by the department. The range of user fees relating  
26 to recreational vehicles must be 25 percent greater for nonresidents than for  
27 residents of this state.

28 (b) With the approval of the commission, the State Parks and Recreation  
29 Director may set, adjust and assess fees for the use of areas established and  
30 maintained by the department. Fees assessed under this paragraph must be  
31 within the range of reasonable charges adopted by the commission under

1 paragraph (a) of this subsection. The director may adjust a fee under this  
2 paragraph no more than four times per calendar year. The director may also  
3 adopt rules establishing reductions in waivers of or exemption from the  
4 charges.

5 (c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, the com-  
6 mission shall authorize the use of any state park, individual campsite or day  
7 use fee area without charge:

8 (A) Upon the showing of proper identification, by a person maintaining  
9 a foster home, as defined by ORS 418.625, and the person's children, when  
10 accompanied by a foster child residing in the home.

11 (B) Upon the showing of proper identification, by a person maintaining  
12 a developmental disability child foster home, as defined by ORS 443.830, and  
13 the person's children, when accompanied by a foster child residing in the  
14 home.

15 (C) If a deed to, lease of or contract to use the property used as a state  
16 park, campsite or day use fee area prohibits the charging of fees for use of  
17 the property.

18 (D) Upon the showing of proper identification, by [*either a disabled vet-*  
19 *eran or*] a person on leave from military active duty status on Memorial Day,  
20 Independence Day or Veterans Day.

21 **(E) Upon the showing of proper identification, by a disabled veteran**  
22 **or the surviving spouse of a deceased disabled veteran.**

23 (3) The commission shall adopt any rules pursuant to ORS chapter 183  
24 that the commission considers necessary to carry out ORS 273.563 to 273.591.

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## WORKFORCE GRANT PROGRAMS

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28 **SECTION 4. (1) As used in this section:**

29 **(a) "Veteran" has the meaning given that term in ORS 408.225.**

30 **(b) "Veteran" includes a disabled veteran as defined in ORS 408.225.**

31 **(2) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall develop and imple-**

1 **ment one or more programs for the purpose of assisting veterans to**  
2 **successfully transition from military service to the workforce or**  
3 **business community. The programs shall award grants to entities that**  
4 **provide veterans with:**

- 5 (a) **Private training programs;**
- 6 (b) **Apprenticeship or employment placement services;**
- 7 (c) **Apprenticeship or training programs;**
- 8 (d) **Employment opportunities; or**
- 9 (e) **Technical support, financial assistance or business creation as-**  
10 **sistance.**

11 **(3) The department shall:**

12 (a) **Develop criteria for awarding grants to entities under this sec-**  
13 **tion.**

14 (b) **Ensure that an entity awarded a grant under this section that**  
15 **provides an apprenticeship or training program meets existing stan-**  
16 **dards of apprenticeship and training approved by the State Appren-**  
17 **ticeship and Training Council.**

18 (c) **Establish processes and procedures under which entities that are**  
19 **awarded grants under this section may award assistance to veterans.**

20 (4)(a) **In developing a program under this section, the department**  
21 **shall consult with the Bureau of Labor and Industries to ensure pro-**  
22 **gram standards are consistent with existing standards of apprentice-**  
23 **ship and training approved by the State Apprenticeship and Training**  
24 **Council.**

25 (b) **The department may develop a program that focuses on a par-**  
26 **ticular industry or trade.**

27 (5) **The department may solicit and accept gifts, grants and do-**  
28 **nations from public and private sources to further the purpose of this**  
29 **section.**

30 (6) **The department may use moneys in the Veterans' Services Fund**  
31 **established under ORS 406.140 to develop, implement and maintain the**

1 **programs under this section.**

2 **(7) The department may adopt rules to implement the provisions**  
3 **of this section.**

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5 **HOUSING GRANT PROGRAMS**

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7 **SECTION 5. (1) As used in this section:**

8 **(a) “Veteran” has the meaning given that term in ORS 408.225.**

9 **(b) “Veteran” includes a disabled veteran as defined in ORS 408.225.**

10 **(2) The Department of Veterans’ Affairs shall develop and imple-**  
11 **ment one or more programs for the purpose of assisting veterans to**  
12 **successfully transition into or maintain stable housing. The programs**  
13 **shall award grants to entities that provide veterans with:**

14 **(a) Emergency, temporary or permanent housing placement or as-**  
15 **sistance;**

16 **(b) Housing construction, acquisition or rehabilitation assistance;**

17 **(c) Home payments, rents or utilities assistance; or**

18 **(d) Rental or homeownership training or education.**

19 **(3) The department shall:**

20 **(a) Develop criteria for awarding grants to entities under this sec-**  
21 **tion.**

22 **(b) Establish processes and procedures under which entities that are**  
23 **awarded grants under this section may award assistance to veterans.**

24 **(4) In developing a program under this section, the department**  
25 **shall consult with the Housing and Community Services Department.**

26 **(5) The Department of Veterans’ Affairs may solicit and accept**  
27 **gifts, grants and donations from public and private sources to further**  
28 **the purposes of this section.**

29 **(6) The department may use moneys in the Veterans’ Services Fund**  
30 **established under ORS 406.140 to develop, implement and maintain the**  
31 **programs under this section.**

1       **(7) The department may adopt rules to implement the provisions**  
2 **of this section.**

3       **SECTION 6. The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall prepare and**  
4 **submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly**  
5 **related to veterans' services on or before September 15, 2024, regarding**  
6 **the status of programs developed and implemented under sections 4**  
7 **and 5 of this 2022 Act.**

8  
9                   **VETERAN EDUCATIONAL BRIDGE GRANT PROGRAM**

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11       **SECTION 7. Section 6, chapter 527, Oregon Laws 2019, as amended**  
12 **by section 1, chapter 678, Oregon Laws 2021 and section 8, chapter 527,**  
13 **Oregon Laws 2019, as amended by section 2, chapter 678, Oregon Laws**  
14 **2021, are repealed.**

15       **SECTION 8. ORS 408.090, as amended by section 7, chapter 527, Oregon**  
16 **Laws 2019, is amended to read:**

17       408.090. (1) The Director of Veterans' Affairs, acting on behalf of the State  
18 of Oregon, is authorized to accept any donation, gift, grant, bequest or devise  
19 made in furtherance of the purposes of ORS 408.010 to 408.090 **and section**  
20 **1, chapter 527, Oregon Laws 2019.** A donation, gift, grant, bequest or devise  
21 that is made in cash or its equivalent or reduced thereto, shall be promptly  
22 paid by the director to the State Treasurer, who shall credit the amount so  
23 received to the Veterans' Educational Aid Account in the General Fund. The  
24 director shall make such disposition of donations, gifts, grants, bequests or  
25 devises, not made in cash or its equivalent, as is specified by the donor  
26 thereof, and their earnings and proceeds shall inure to said account. All such  
27 donations, gifts, grants, bequests or devises accepted by the director are  
28 transfers exempt from taxes imposed on inheritances under the laws of this  
29 state.

30       (2) All moneys in the Veterans' Educational Aid Account are contin-  
31 uously appropriated to the director and may be used by the director for the



1 purposes authorized in ORS 408.010 to 408.090 **and section 1, chapter 527,**  
2 **Oregon Laws 2019.**

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## OREGON PROMISE PROGRAM

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6 **SECTION 9.** ORS 341.522 is amended to read:

7 341.522. (1) The Office of Student Access and Completion shall administer  
8 the Oregon Promise program as provided by this section.

9 (2) Subject to subsections (7) to (10) of this section, the office shall pro-  
10 vide a grant for community college courses to a person who meets the cri-  
11 teria described in subsections (3) to (6) of this section. The grant shall be  
12 limited as provided by subsections (7) to (10) of this section.

13 (3) A grant shall be awarded under this section to a person who meets the  
14 following criteria:

15 (a) Is enrolled in courses that are:

16 (A) Offered at a community college in this state; and

17 (B) Determined by the office, in accordance with rules adopted by the  
18 Higher Education Coordinating Commission, to be required for completion  
19 of:

20 (i) A one-year curriculum for students who plan to transfer to another  
21 post-secondary institution of education;

22 (ii) An associate degree; or

23 (iii) A program in career and technical education;

24 (b) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, has been a resi-  
25 dent of this state for at least 12 months prior to enrolling in the courses  
26 described in paragraph (a) of this subsection;

27 (c) Attained the person's highest level of education, except as provided in  
28 subsection (5) of this section, in this state prior to:

29 (A) Receiving a diploma under ORS 329.451;

30 (B) Receiving a certificate for passing an approved high school equiv-  
31 alency test such as the General Educational Development (GED) test as

1 provided by ORS 350.175;

2 (C) Completing grade 12 in compliance with the requirements of ORS  
3 339.035; or

4 (D) Completing grade 12 at a private or parochial school, as described in  
5 ORS 339.030 (1)(a);

6 (d) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (5) of this section, attained  
7 the person's highest level of education as described in paragraph (c) of this  
8 subsection within six months from the date that the person first enrolls in  
9 courses described in paragraph (a) of this subsection for the purpose of re-  
10 ceiving a grant under this section;

11 (e) Earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better in high  
12 school or otherwise demonstrated an equivalent academic ability, as deter-  
13 mined by the office according to rules adopted by the commission;

14 (f) **Except as provided in subsection (5)(a) of this section**, completed  
15 and submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for each aca-  
16 demic year and accepted all state and federal aid grants available to the  
17 person, if eligible to file the application; and

18 (g) Has not completed either of the following:

19 (A) More than a total of 90 credit hours, or the equivalent, at a post-  
20 secondary institution of education; or

21 (B) A curriculum, degree or program, as described in paragraph (a)(B) of  
22 this subsection.

23 (4)(a) If a person otherwise meets the required criteria and has been  
24 awarded a grant under subsection (3) of this section, but the person enters  
25 into service with a career and technical student organization relating to  
26 agriculture or farming that is approved by the Department of Education un-  
27 der ORS 344.077 within six months after the person attained the person's  
28 highest level of education as described in subsection (3)(c) of this section, the  
29 person will continue to be eligible to receive the grant if the person first  
30 enrolls in courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section within six  
31 months of finishing the person's service with the career and technical stu-

1 dent organization.

2 (b) In addition to the situation described in paragraph (a) of this sub-  
3 section, the commission may waive the requirement set forth in subsection  
4 (3)(d) of this section for a person who shows that the person was unable to  
5 timely enroll in courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section due to  
6 a significant hardship. The commission may adopt rules to implement this  
7 paragraph.

8 (5)(a) A member of the Oregon National Guard who has completed initial  
9 active duty training is not required to comply with the criteria set forth in  
10 subsection (3)(d) of this section **or to accept federal aid grants available**  
11 **to the person as set forth in subsection (3)(f) of this section** in order  
12 to receive a grant, provided that the member first enrolls in courses de-  
13 scribed in subsection (3)(a) of this section within six months after completing  
14 initial active duty training, as evidenced by an official form issued by the  
15 United States Department of Defense.

16 (b)(A) A person who completes the highest level of education as described  
17 in subsection (3)(c) of this section while confined in a correctional facility,  
18 either serving a sentence of incarceration or as a young person, youth or  
19 adjudicated youth, is not required to comply with the criteria set forth in  
20 subsection (3)(d) of this section in order to receive a grant, provided that the  
21 person first enrolls in courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section  
22 within six months after the date on which the person is first released from  
23 a correctional facility following completion of the highest level of education  
24 described in subsection (3)(c) of this section.

25 (B) The eligibility requirements described in subsection (6)(a)(C) of this  
26 section may be waived by the office according to rules adopted by the com-  
27 mission for a person who receives a grant under this section in the manner  
28 described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

29 (C) As used in this paragraph:

30 (i) “Adjudicated youth,” “detention facility,” “young person” and  
31 “youth” have the meanings given those terms in ORS 419A.004.

1 (ii) "Correctional facility" means any place used for the confinement of  
2 young persons, youths or adjudicated youths or persons charged with or  
3 convicted of a crime or otherwise confined under a court order, including

4 a:

5 (I) Youth correction facility;

6 (II) Detention facility;

7 (III) Department of Corrections institution;

8 (IV) Local correctional facility; or

9 (V) State hospital or a secure intensive community inpatient facility, with  
10 respect to persons detained therein who are youths or adjudicated youths,  
11 who are charged with or convicted of a crime or who are detained therein  
12 after having been found guilty except for insanity of a crime under ORS  
13 161.290 to 161.373 or having been found responsible except for insanity under  
14 ORS 419C.411.

15 (iii) "Department of Corrections institution" has the meaning given that  
16 term in ORS 421.005.

17 (iv) "Local correctional facility" has the meaning given that term in ORS  
18 169.005.

19 (v) "Youth correction facility" has the meaning given that term in ORS  
20 420.005.

21 (c)(A) If a person was a foster child:

22 (i) The person shall be treated as meeting the residency criteria for el-  
23 igibility under subsection (3)(b) of this section if, but for the person's place-  
24 ment in out-of-state foster care, the person otherwise meets the requirements  
25 of subsection (3)(b) of this section.

26 (ii) The person shall be treated as attaining the person's highest level of  
27 education in this state under subsection (3)(c) of this section if the person  
28 attained the person's highest level of education while placed in out-of-state  
29 foster care and the person's highest level of education substantially meets  
30 the requirements under subsection (3)(c) of this section.

31 (iii) The person is not required to comply with the criteria set forth in

1 subsection (3)(d) of this section in order to receive a grant provided that the  
2 person completes the highest level of education as described in subparagraph  
3 (A)(ii) of this paragraph while in a treatment program and the person first  
4 enrolls in courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section within 12  
5 months after the date on which the person is released from the treatment  
6 program.

7 (B) Upon request from the commission, the Department of Human Ser-  
8 vices shall provide documentation of the placement status of a person de-  
9 scribed in paragraph (c)(A) of this subsection.

10 (C) As used in this paragraph:

11 (i) "Foster care" means substitute care for children placed by the De-  
12 partment of Human Services or a tribal child welfare agency away from the  
13 child's parents and for whom the department or agency has placement and  
14 care responsibility, including placements in foster family homes, foster homes  
15 of relatives, group homes, emergency shelters, residential facilities, child  
16 care institutions and preadoptive homes.

17 (ii) "Foster child" means a child over whom the Department of Human  
18 Services retained jurisdiction under ORS 417.200 for the duration of the  
19 child's placement in foster care outside the State of Oregon.

20 (6)(a) A person continues to remain eligible to receive a grant under this  
21 section if the person, in addition to satisfying the criteria specified in sub-  
22 section (3) of this section, meets the following criteria:

23 (A) Maintains at least the minimum cumulative grade point average pre-  
24 scribed by the commission based on federal aid grant requirements;

25 (B) Makes satisfactory academic progress toward a curriculum, degree or  
26 program, as described in subsection (3)(a)(B) of this section, as prescribed  
27 by the commission based on federal aid grant requirements;

28 (C) Enrolls in courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section for a  
29 sufficient number of credit hours to be considered at least a half-time student  
30 each term for at least three terms in each consecutive academic year; and

31 (D) Completes a first-year experience, as identified by the community

1 college and reported by the community college to the commission.

2 (b) A person who fails to meet an eligibility requirement described in  
3 paragraph (a) of this subsection becomes ineligible to receive a grant under  
4 this section for the term after which the person fails to meet the eligibility  
5 requirement, unless the eligibility requirement is waived by the office ac-  
6 cording to rules adopted by the commission.

7 (7)(a) The total amount of a grant awarded under this section shall be  
8 based on each term that a person is enrolled in courses described in sub-  
9 section (3)(a) of this section. Except as provided in subsections (9) and (10)  
10 of this section, after the amount of tuition for the person for the term is  
11 reduced by any amounts received by the person in state and federal aid  
12 grants, the person shall be eligible for a grant under this section in an  
13 amount that equals:

14 (A) Except as provided by paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection, not  
15 less than the greater of:

16 (i) \$1,000; and

17 (ii) The person's actual cost for tuition.

18 (B) Not more than the lesser of:

19 (i) The average cost of tuition at a community college in this state, as  
20 determined by the office; and

21 (ii) The person's actual cost for tuition.

22 (b) The amount of a grant, as calculated under paragraph (a) of this  
23 subsection, shall be reduced by \$50 for each term that the person receives a  
24 grant under this section.

25 (c)(A) If the office determines both that the person's actual cost for tui-  
26 tion exceeds the amount set forth in paragraph (a)(A)(i) of this subsection  
27 and that the person's actual cost for tuition exceeds the average cost of tu-  
28 tion at a community college in this state, the person shall be eligible for a  
29 grant in an amount that equals the average cost of tuition at a community  
30 college in this state.

31 (B) If the office determines that the person's actual cost for tuition is less

1 than the amount set forth in paragraph (a)(A)(i) of this subsection, the per-  
2 son shall be eligible for a grant in an amount that equals the amount set  
3 forth in paragraph (a)(A)(i) of this subsection.

4 (d) The minimum amount of a grant, as calculated under paragraphs (a)  
5 to (c) of this subsection, may be prorated for a person who is enrolled in  
6 courses described in subsection (3)(a) of this section for a sufficient number  
7 of credit hours to be considered at least a half-time student but not a full-  
8 time student.

9 (e) The commission may prescribe by rule whether to include fees, and  
10 any limitations related to the inclusion of fees, when determining the actual  
11 cost of tuition or the average cost of tuition under this subsection.

12 (8) The commission may adopt by rule the priority by which grants are  
13 awarded, which may allow for preference to be given to persons enrolled in  
14 school districts or high schools that meet specified criteria.

15 (9) Prior to the start of the fall term of each academic year, the commis-  
16 sion shall determine whether there are sufficient moneys to award a grant  
17 under this section to each person who meets the criteria described in sub-  
18 sections (3) to (6) of this section. On the basis of this determination the  
19 commission may:

20 (a) Limit eligibility to receive a grant under this section to a person  
21 whose family contribution, as determined by the commission by rule, is at  
22 or below the level the commission determines is necessary to allow the  
23 commission to operate the Oregon Promise program with available moneys;  
24 or

25 (b) Reduce or eliminate any limitation on eligibility previously imposed  
26 by the commission under paragraph (a) of this subsection.

27 (10)(a) If at any time the commission determines that there are insuffi-  
28 cient moneys to provide a grant to each person who has been awarded a  
29 grant under this section, the commission may:

30 (A) Decrease the total amount of the grant awarded; or

31 (B) Increase the amount that a person must pay under subsection (7)(b)

1 of this section for each term that the person receives a grant under this  
2 section.

3 (b) If at any time the commission determines that the amount of moneys  
4 available to operate the Oregon Promise program exceeds the amount deter-  
5 mined under subsection (9) of this section, the commission may reduce or  
6 eliminate any limitation on eligibility to receive a grant under this section  
7 that was previously imposed by the commission under subsection (9)(a) of  
8 this section.

9 (c) The commission shall promptly notify the interim committees of the  
10 Legislative Assembly responsible for higher education each time the com-  
11 mission takes any action under paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection.

12 (11) The commission shall adopt any rules necessary for the adminis-  
13 tration of this section, including any requirements related to:

14 (a) Specifying the form and timelines for submitting an application for a  
15 grant under this section;

16 (b) Determining whether a person is eligible for a grant under this sec-  
17 tion, including whether the person shall be given priority as allowed under  
18 subsection (8) of this section;

19 (c) Implementing programs or policies that improve the academic success  
20 or completion rates for persons who receive a grant under this section;

21 (d) Prescribing eligibility requirements and grant calculations for persons  
22 dually enrolled in a community college and a public university; and

23 (e) Evaluating the impact of the program established under this section,  
24 including any requirements for reporting data needed for evaluations.

25 (12) No later than December 31 of each even-numbered year, the commis-  
26 sion shall submit to an interim legislative committee related to education a  
27 report that summarizes the commission's findings on the impact of the pro-  
28 gram established under this section. The report shall include:

29 (a) Student completion rates of curricula, degrees and programs described  
30 in subsection (3)(a)(B) of this section;

31 (b) The amount of federal aid grants received by persons who received a



1 grant under this section;

2 (c) The financial impact of the program on school districts that had stu-  
3 dents receive a grant under this section;

4 (d) The financial impact and the enrollment impact of the program on  
5 community colleges and public universities in this state; and

6 (e) The overall success rate of the program and financial impact of the  
7 program.

8

9 **PROPERTY TAX FORGIVENESS**

10

11 **SECTION 10. ORS 307.250, 307.260, 307.262, 307.270 and 307.280 are**  
12 **added to and made a part of ORS 307.250 to 307.280.**

13 **SECTION 11.** ORS 307.250 is amended to read:

14 307.250. (1) As used in [*this section and ORS 307.260, 307.262 and*  
15 *307.270,*] **ORS 307.250 to 307.280:**

16 (a) **“Surviving spouse of a veteran” means a veteran’s surviving**  
17 **spouse who has not remarried.**

18 (b) “Veteran” has the meaning given that term in ORS 408.225.

19 (2) Upon compliance with ORS 307.260, there shall be exempt from taxa-  
20 tion not to exceed \$15,000 of the assessed value of the homestead or personal  
21 property of any of the following residents of this state other than those de-  
22 scribed in subsection (3) **or** (4) of this section:

23 (a) Any veteran who is officially certified by the United States Depart-  
24 ment of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the Armed Forces of the United  
25 States as having disabilities of 40 percent or more.

26 (b) Any veteran **who:**

27 (A) [*having*] **Has** served with the United States Armed Forces;

28 (B) [*who,*] As certified by one duly licensed physician or naturopathic  
29 physician, is rated as having disabilities of 40 percent or more[.]; **and**

30 (C) [*However, a veteran shall be entitled to the exemption granted under*  
31 *this paragraph only if the veteran*] During the calendar year immediately

1 preceding the assessment year for which the exemption is claimed had total  
2 gross income, including pensions, disability compensation or retirement pay,  
3 or any combination of such payments from the United States Government  
4 on account of such service, of not more than 185 percent of federal poverty  
5 guidelines.

6 *[(c) The surviving spouse remaining unmarried of a veteran, but the ex-*  
7 *emption shall apply only to the period preceding the date of the first remar-*  
8 *riage of the surviving spouse.]*

9 **(c) The surviving spouse of a veteran.**

10 (3) Upon compliance with ORS 307.260, there shall be exempt from taxa-  
11 tion not to exceed \$18,000 of the assessed value of the homestead or personal  
12 property of any of the following residents of this state **other than those**  
13 **described in subsection (4) of this section:**

14 (a) Any veteran who is officially certified by the United States Depart-  
15 ment of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the Armed Forces of the United  
16 States as having service-connected disabilities of 40 percent or more.

17 (b) The surviving spouse [*remaining unmarried*] of a veteran, if the vet-  
18 eran:

19 (A) Died as a result of service-connected injury or illness; or [*if the vet-*  
20 *eran*]

21 (B) Received at least one year of the maximum exemption from taxation  
22 [*allowed*] **granted** under paragraph (a) of this subsection after 1981 [*for a*  
23 *veteran certified as having service-connected disabilities of 40 percent or*  
24 *more*].

25 **(4) There shall be exempt from taxation the homestead or personal**  
26 **property of any of the following residents of this state:**

27 (a) Any veteran who is:

28 (A) At least 65 years of age; and

29 (B) Officially certified by the United States Department of Veterans  
30 Affairs or any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States as  
31 having service-connected disabilities of 100 percent or more.

1       **(b) The surviving spouse of a veteran, if the veteran:**

2       **(A) Died as a result of service-connected injury or illness; or**

3       **(B) Received at least one year of the exemption from taxation**  
4 **granted under paragraph (a) of this subsection.**

5       [(4)] **(5)** The amount of the exemption [allowed] **granted** under subsection  
6 (2) or (3) of this section shall equal 103 percent of the amount of the ex-  
7 emption for the prior tax year.

8       **(6) An exemption granted under this section to the property of a**  
9 **surviving spouse of a veteran applies solely to the period preceding the**  
10 **date of the first remarriage of the surviving spouse of a veteran and**  
11 **ends on the date of remarriage.**

12       **SECTION 12.** ORS 307.260 is amended to read:

13       307.260. (1)(a) Each veteran or surviving spouse **of a veteran** [qualifying  
14 for] **seeking** the exemption under ORS 307.250 [shall] **must** file with the  
15 county assessor, on forms supplied by the assessor, a claim [therefor] **for**  
16 **exemption** in writing on or before April 1 of the assessment year for which  
17 the exemption is claimed, except that when the property designated is ac-  
18 quired after March 1 but prior to July 1 the claim [shall] **must** be filed  
19 within 30 days after the date of acquisition.

20       (b) A claim [need not be filed] **is not required** under this section in order  
21 to be [allowed] **granted** the exemption described in ORS 307.250 if:

22       (A) The homestead or personal property of the veteran or surviving  
23 spouse **of a veteran** was [allowed] **granted** the exemption under ORS 307.250  
24 for the preceding tax year;

25       (B) The individual claiming the exemption is a veteran described in ORS  
26 307.250 (2)(a), [or] (3)(a) **or (4)(a)** or a surviving spouse **of a veteran** who  
27 meets the requirements of ORS 307.250 (2)(c), [or] (3)(b) **or (4)(b)**; and

28       (C) As of the filing date for the current tax year, the ownership and use  
29 of the homestead or personal property and all other [qualifying] conditions  
30 **of eligibility** for the homestead or personal property to be [allowed] **granted**  
31 the exemption remain unchanged.

1 (c)(A) If the individual claiming the exemption is a veteran described in  
2 ORS 307.250 (2)(b), the claimant *[shall]* **must** file a claim annually that sat-  
3 isfies the requirements of subsection (2) of this section on or before the date  
4 required in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

5 (B) If the county assessor has not received a claim filed under this para-  
6 graph on or before April 1 of the current year, not later than April 10 of  
7 each year, the county assessor shall notify the veteran in the county who  
8 *[secured]* **was granted** an exemption under ORS 307.250 (2)(b) in the preced-  
9 ing year but who did not *[make application therefor]* **file a claim for the**  
10 **exemption** on or before April 1 of the current year. The county assessor  
11 may provide the notification on an unsealed postal card. A veteran so noti-  
12 fied may *[secure]* **be granted** the exemption, if still *[qualified]* **eligible**, by  
13 *[making application therefor to]* **filing a claim for the exemption with** the  
14 county assessor not later than May 1 of the current year, accompanied by  
15 a late-filing fee of \$10, which shall be deposited in the general fund of the  
16 county for general governmental expenses. If the claim for any tax year is  
17 not filed within the time specified, the exemption may not be *[allowed]*  
18 **granted** on the assessment roll for that year.

19 (2)(a) *[The claim shall]* **A claim filed under this section must** set out  
20 the basis of the claim and designate the property to which the exemption  
21 may apply. Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, **there must**  
22 **be affixed to** claims for *[exemptions]* **exemption** under ORS 307.250 (2)(a),  
23 *[and]* (3)(a) **and (4)(a)** *[shall have affixed thereto]* the certificate last issued  
24 by United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the branch of the Armed  
25 Forces of the United States, as *[the case may be]* **applicable**, but dated within  
26 three years prior to the date of the claim for exemption, certifying the rate  
27 of disability of the claimant.

28 (b) **Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, there must**  
29 **be affixed to** claims for exemption under ORS 307.250 (2)(b) *[shall, except*  
30 *as provided in subsection (3) of this section, have affixed thereto]*, in addition  
31 to the certificate last issued by a licensed physician or naturopathic physi-

1 cian and dated within one year prior to the date of the claim for exemption,  
2 certifying the rate of disability of the claimant, a statement by the claimant  
3 under oath or affirmation setting forth the total gross income received by  
4 the claimant from all sources during the last calendar year.

5 (c) There **must** also [*shall*] be affixed to each claim the affidavit or af-  
6 firmation of the claimant that the statements contained [*therein*] **in the**  
7 **claim** are true.

8 (3) The provisions of subsection (2) of this section that require a veteran  
9 to affix to the claim certificates of the United States Department of Veterans  
10 Affairs, a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States or a licensed  
11 physician or naturopathic physician do not apply to a veteran who has filed  
12 the required certificate after attaining the age of 65 years or to a veteran  
13 who has filed, on or after September 27, 1987, a certificate certifying a disa-  
14 bility rating that, under federal law, is permanent and cannot be changed.

15 (4)(a) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a surviving spouse  
16 **of a veteran** may file a claim for the exemption under ORS 307.250 at any  
17 time during the tax year if:

18 (A) The veteran died during the previous tax year; or

19 (B) The property designated as the homestead was acquired after March  
20 1 but prior to July 1 of the assessment year and the veteran died within 30  
21 days of the date the property was acquired.

22 (b) [*The claim shall be allowed by*] The county assessor **shall grant the**  
23 **claim** if the surviving spouse **of a veteran** meets all [*of the qualifications*]  
24 **the eligibility requirements** for an exemption under ORS 307.250 other  
25 than the timely filing of a claim under subsection (1) of this section.

26 (c) If taxes on the exempt value have been paid, the taxes shall be re-  
27 funded in the manner prescribed in paragraph (d) of this subsection. If taxes  
28 on the exempt value have not been paid, the taxes and any interest  
29 [*thereon*] **on the taxes** shall be abated.

30 (d) The tax collector shall notify the governing body of the county of any  
31 refund required under this section and the governing body shall cause a re-

1 fund of the taxes and any interest paid to be made from the unsegregated tax  
2 collections account described in ORS 311.385. The refund under this sub-  
3 section shall be made without interest. The county assessor and tax collector  
4 shall make the necessary corrections in the records of their offices.

5 **SECTION 13.** ORS 307.270 is amended to read:

6 307.270. (1) The exemption under ORS 307.250 applies to property [a] **that**  
7 **an eligible** veteran or surviving spouse **of a veteran** owns or has in pos-  
8 session under a recorded contract of purchase.

9 **(2)** The exemption first applies to the homestead of the veteran or sur-  
10 viving spouse **of a veteran** and then to the personal property of the veteran  
11 or surviving spouse **of a veteran**.

12 **(3)** Property of the spouse of [the] a veteran is deemed the homestead of  
13 the veteran if the veteran and the spouse of the veteran are living together  
14 and occupying the property as their homestead.

15 **(4)** When a veteran or surviving spouse **of a veteran** applies for ex-  
16 emption on properties in two or more counties, the total amount of the ex-  
17 emption allowed in all counties may not exceed the maximum amount of  
18 exemption under ORS 307.250.

19 [(2)] **(5)** For each [qualified] **eligible** veteran or surviving spouse **of a**  
20 **veteran**, only one valid and allowable claim for an exemption on a home-  
21 stead [shall] **may** be permitted in any one assessment year.

22 **SECTION 14.** **The amendments to ORS 307.250, 307.260 and 307.270**  
23 **by sections 11 to 13 of this 2022 Act apply to property tax years begin-**  
24 **ning on or after July 1, 2022.**

25 **SECTION 15.** **ORS 307.283 is repealed.**

26 **SECTION 16.** ORS 307.380 is amended to read:

27 307.380. (1) Each corporation described in ORS 307.375, claiming the per-  
28 sonal property tax exemption pursuant to ORS 307.370, shall file with the  
29 county assessor, on forms supplied by the assessor, a written claim therefor  
30 in duplicate on or before April 1 of each year in which the exemption is  
31 claimed, except that when the property designated is acquired after March

1 1 and before July 1, the claim for that year shall be filed within 30 days after  
2 the date of acquisition. If the claim for any year is not filed within the time  
3 specified, the exemption shall not be allowed on the assessment roll for that  
4 year. The claim shall be signed by the taxpayer subject to the penalties for  
5 false swearing.

6 (2)(a) Each corporation annually shall aid residents, who could qualify for  
7 property tax exemptions pursuant to ORS 307.250 to 307.283, if the living unit  
8 of such elderly person were the homestead of the person and owned in fee  
9 simple, to prepare applications in duplicate for property tax exemptions on  
10 behalf of the corporation, for the benefit of the elderly person as provided  
11 by ORS 307.370 to 307.385 and 308.490. The duplicate forms shall be completed  
12 and signed by the resident-applicant and filed with the assessor on or before  
13 the date required by law.

14 (b) The corporation shall determine the amount of assessed value that  
15 each resident of a nonprofit home who would have qualified for an exemption  
16 under ORS 307.250 to 307.283 would have had exempted if the living unit of  
17 such elderly person was the homestead of the person and owned in fee sim-  
18 ple. The amount of the property tax exemption provided for in ORS 307.370  
19 to 307.385 and 308.490 and attributable to the veteran or surviving spouse  
20 of the veteran shall be the lesser of:

21 (A) The maximum amount of exemption that the veteran or surviving  
22 spouse of a veteran would have qualified for under ORS 307.250 [*or 307.283,*  
23 *whichever is applicable*]; or

24 (B) The assessed value of the living unit of the veteran or the surviving  
25 spouse.

26 (c) The assessor shall process each such application in the manner oth-  
27 erwise required under ORS 307.250 to 307.283, except for the requirement of  
28 owning or purchasing a homestead. The total of such exempt amounts in  
29 each facility, together with the exemption on personal property, shall con-  
30 stitute the exemption allowed the corporation.

31 (3) The assessor shall act upon the claim and shall approve it or reject

1 it, noting the action upon both the original and the duplicate copies. The  
2 duplicate copy thereupon shall be returned to the claimant.

3 (4) The Department of Revenue shall furnish to a county assessor, upon  
4 request, a statement certifying the qualification or nonqualification of a  
5 corporation under ORS 307.375.

6

7

#### UNIT CAPTIONS

8

9 **SECTION 17. The unit captions used in this 2022 Act are provided**  
10 **only for the convenience of the reader and do not become part of the**  
11 **statutory law of this state or express any legislative intent in the**  
12 **enactment of this 2022 Act.**

13

14

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

15

16 **SECTION 18. This 2022 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the**  
17 **date on which the 2022 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative**  
18 **Assembly adjourns sine die.**

19

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