

HB 2094 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Patterson

Senate Committee On Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 04/27/21

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 3-1-0-0

Yeas: 3 - Manning Jr, Patterson, Thomsen

Nays: 1 - Linthicum

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/20, 4/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies definition of "veteran" to be determined by Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) rule for certain purposes concerning its programs. Permits OHCS director's designee to sign housing finance bond declarations. Clarifies definition of "qualified housing sponsor" with respect to assessment of qualifications.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Expanding modifications to the statutory definition of veteran
- Possibilities for veterans experiencing homelessness to access a path to homeownership
- Types of military discharge issued by the federal Department of Defense (DOD)

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) offers low-interest loan programs for affordable rental housing developments. Between July 2019 and December 2020, OHCS provided over \$1 million in down payment assistance for Oregon veterans. One hundred percent financing is available for federal Veterans Administration (VA) home loans through the Oregon Bond Residential Loan Program.

House Bill 2094 allows OHCS to define "veteran" via rulemaking and permits a designee of OHCS director to sign housing finance bond declarations. The measure also defines OHCS' authority to assess qualified housing sponsors.