

**A-Engrossed
House Bill 2239**

Ordered by the House April 23
Including House Amendments dated April 23

Sponsored by Representative WILDE; Representatives EVANS, NERON (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

[Directs each judicial district to ensure veterans who are criminal defendants have access to veterans' court programs. Authorizes court to grant motion dismissing charges after completion of veterans' court program when in interests of justice.]

Directs Judicial Department to establish centralized veterans treatment court that counties may opt into beginning July 1, 2023. Directs department to report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to judiciary concerning obstacles to and authorizations and fiscal costs necessary for operation of court.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to court programs for veterans; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Judicial Department shall establish a centralized veterans treatment court that counties may opt into beginning July 1, 2023.

(2) The department shall establish conditions of participation for counties for the court described in subsection (1) of this section.

SECTION 2. (1) No later than October 1, 2021, the Judicial Department shall report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the judiciary, in the manner provided under ORS 192.245, regarding any legal or statutory authorizations necessary for, and obstacles to, establishing the centralized veterans treatment court described in section 1 of this 2021 Act.

(2) No later than October 1, 2022, the department shall report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the judiciary, in the manner provided under ORS 192.245, regarding the fiscal costs necessary to operate the centralized veterans treatment court described in section 1 of this 2021 Act.

SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2023.

SECTION 4. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Judicial Department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____ for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of sections 1 and 2 of this 2021 Act.

SECTION 5. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect on its passage.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.