

20 April 2023

TO: Chair Manning, Co-Chair Thatcher & Members of the Senate Committee on Emergency Management, General Government and Veterans  
Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

FROM: Laurie Kimmell, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)

SUBJECT: Argument in Against of HB 2147-2

ATTENTION: FOR ALL REVIEWING AUTHORITIES

1. Please accept this as my testimony for HB 2147-2. I have honorably served in the Air Force for 24 years. I managed Privacy Act, FOIA, a Records Repository, and HIPPA information. I have several concerns regarding this bill. My concerns are that it creates a system of records without any safeguards, designates possible volunteers to handle Personal Identifying information (PII), another unfunded mandate for counties, and places the burden on the already overtasked Veterans Service Officers (VSO) when there are (2) private organizations that handle unclaimed veterans remains.

2. A system of records contains information collected and used to carry out functions associated tasks, internally which includes PII (Full name, SSN, Medical Records). There is not any prescribed training mentioned in the bill for staff or volunteers for handling (PII) or how this system of records will be used.

3. There are (2) organizations that handle unclaimed remains of veterans. These (2) organizations are : Missing in America Project Their website is: <https://www.miap.us/>. There is also a Homeless Veterans Burial Program through the Dignity Memorial Group. Their website is: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/plan-funeral-cremation/veterans/homeless-veterans-program>.

I recommend that the bill be specific ***who will*** conduct the training for handling (PII), what parameters the volunteer has in this role, if the volunteer is immune from *civil liability (as prescribed in section (5) para (6))*, and how this new system of records is to be used.

Thank you,

LAURIE KIMMELL, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)