

6 February 2023

TO: Representatives Rayfield, Kropf, Senator Lieber, Representative Valderrama,
Senator Wagner; Representatives Evans, Goodwin, Holvey, Mannix, Nosse,
Sanchez, Senator Knopp
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

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

SUBJECT: Argument Against HB 4001

ATTENTION: FOR ALL REVIEWING AUTHORITIES

1. HB 400 is a noble bill but, there are several flaws that need to be worked out for refinement before the end of the session. There was not any mention of a representative on the task force to be from a county Veterans Advisory Committee, a veteran's organization, or a Veterans Service Officer (VSO). Also, there is not any mention of the task force to consider Veterans Treatment courts in the specialty court category
2. I able to assemble support for HB 2203 during the 2019 legislative session for the establishment of a state wide Veterans treatment court. The bill specified the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to develop and implement a grant program to provide funding to Oregon Counties to: support the operation of existing veterans' courts and support the implementation of veterans courts in counties that do not offer veterans specialty court.
3. I urge you in tomorrow's work session to refine this bill to include 2 representatives from a veteran's organization, a member of a veteran's advisory committee, or a VSO to be included on this task force so that veterans can have representation.

Thank you,

//SIGNED//

LAURIE KIMMELL, MSgt, USAF (Ret.)