

SB 159 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Prepared By: Beverly Anderson, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/6, 5/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure allows veterans' recognition registration plates to be used on mopeds and motorcycles.

Fiscal impact: Minimal fiscal impact

Revenue impact: Minimal revenue impact

Senate Vote: Ayes, 29; Excused, 1

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of the Oregon's Veteran Recognition Plate program
- Cost of plates and revenue generated for the Oregon Veteran Homes
- Questions about the use of mopeds by veterans

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The current iteration of the veterans' recognition registration plate program began in 2008 as a joint effort between the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs. Most veteran plates require proof of eligibility, such as proof of honorable discharge. Permanent plates are available for disabled veterans and ex-prisoners-of-war (POW), with proof of having a service-connected disability or of qualifying POW status. Current statute allows veteran plates to be used on passenger vehicles, but not on mopeds and motorcycles.