

Senate Joint Memorial 8

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON RULES

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 **as introduced**.

Urges Congress to introduce and pass legislation to allow veterans in Oregon to receive health care from health care facilities in addition to Department of Veterans Affairs health care facilities.

JOINT MEMORIAL

To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-third Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas Oregon has one of the nation's highest numbers of veterans per capita; and

Whereas approximately 370,000 veterans reside in Oregon; and

Whereas approximately 1,300 members of the Oregon National Guard are currently serving in Iraq; and

Whereas there are only two Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals, one Department of Veterans Affairs domiciliary and two Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinics in Oregon; and

Whereas many veterans in Oregon reside a great distance from the nearest Department of Veterans Affairs health care facility and face the burdensome problem of having to travel long hours to receive health care at a Department of Veterans Affairs health care facility; and

Whereas those veterans in Oregon who reside in close proximity to a Department of Veterans Affairs health care facility often encounter long wait times and other barriers to receiving health care; and

Whereas there are many other health care facilities located throughout Oregon; and

Whereas the ability of veterans in Oregon to receive health care at other health care facilities closer to their homes will increase access to health care for veterans; and

Whereas the ability of veterans in Oregon to receive health care at other health care facilities will reduce the wait times and other barriers to receiving health care at Department of Veterans Affairs health care facilities and will increase access to health care for veterans; and

Whereas access is a part of quality health care and veterans in Oregon deserve quality health care; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

(1) The Congress of the United States is respectfully urged to introduce and pass legislation to allow veterans in Oregon to receive health care from health care facilities in addition to Department of Veterans Affairs health care facilities.

(2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

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.

