74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY Senate Committee on Commerce

MEASURE: CARRIER:

HB	2254
Sen.	Gordly

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact	
Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Avakian, Gordly, Monroe, Prozanski
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Beyer
Prepared By:	Anna Braun, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/2, 5/9

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Imposes a 45-day timeline for an employer to provide copies or allow inspection of personnel records. Allows a time extension upon the agreement of the employer and employee. Establishes a civil penalty of up to \$1000 for violations.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current law to keep records for 60 days
- Whether employer has an obligation to retain records for longer periods •

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Under current statute, employees have the right to request a copy of or view their personnel files. However, there is no specified timeframe for an employer to comply. Furthermore, if an employer fails to reply to an employee's request, the only viable option is for the employee to seek administrative recourse or seek a court order to compel production of the required records. HB 2254 requires employers to respond to the request within 45 days unless the employer and employee agree to a time extension if the records are not readily available.

According to the Bureau of Labor and Industries, 63 complaints were received in 2004-2005 regarding failure to provide personnel records and 41 were received in 2005-2006.