

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	7 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Berger, Edwards C., Esquivel, Holvey, Rosenbaum, Smith P., Schaufler
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/16, 3/26, 4/18

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Establishes a service retirement allowance for telecommunicators who are members of the Public Employees Retirement System, have 25 years or more of creditable service in the system as a telecommunicator, and retire before normal retirement age. Provides that the earliest retirement age for telecommunicators who are members of the Oregon Public Service Retirement Plan is 55 or the age at which the telecommunicator acquires 25 years of retirement credit as a telecommunicator, whichever is first. Provides that telecommunicators who retire before age 55 do not receive a annual cost-of-living adjustment until attaining age 55.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Working conditions of emergency telecommunicators
- Number of telecommunicators who qualify for retirement
- Potential financial impact to local government
- Effects of measure in regards to recruiting new 911 operators due to veterans leaving for early retirement

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Restores deleted language which would have allowed for early retirement for all Public Employee Retirement System members.

**BACKGROUND:** There are according 1000 telecommunicators who have been certified by the Department for Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) and centers throughout Oregon. Approximately two-thirds of telecommunicators are members of the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS).

A telecommunicator is defined in statute as a person employed as an emergency telephone worker (official duties are receiving information through a 9-1-1 emergency reporting system, and relaying such information to public or private safety agencies or dispatching emergency equipment or personnel in response to such information) or as a public safety dispatcher (primary duties are receiving, processing, and transmitting public safety information received through a 9-1-1 emergency reporting system).