74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Elections, Ethics and Rules

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 6 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Berger, Buckley, Esquivel, Hunt, Roblan, Rosenbaum

Nays: -

Exc.: Thatcher

Prepared By: Jim Stembridge, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Changes name of Oregon Government Standards and Practices Commission to the Oregon Government Ethics Commission.

MEASURE:

CARRIER:

HB 2636

Rep. Hunt

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of original name, the "Oregon Government Ethics Commission"
- Reasons for change of name to the "Oregon Government Standards and Practices Commission"
- "Short-hand" name commonly used by the media and in conversation
- Possibility of changing the term "preliminary investigation" to "complaint review" or "allegations review" in the Commission's investigation process

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Government Ethics Commission was created by 1974 special-session legislation (HB 3304) which was referred to the electorate as Ballot Measure 14 in November 1974. HB 3304 passed in the House 41-12, passed in the Senate 23-4, and became law without Governor McCall's signature. In November of 1974, the measure passed 498,002 to 177,946 (more than 73 percent voting "yes"). Gerald R. Ford had been President for about ten weeks. Nineteen years later, 1993 legislation (SB 159) changed the agency's name to the Oregon Government Standards and Practices Commission. The 1993 vote on SB 159 was 24-4 in the Senate and 59-0 in the House. The 1993 measure was signed into law by Governor Roberts.