74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 2782 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Rep. Krieger

House Committee on Judiciary

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 9 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Barker, Bonamici, Cameron, Flores, Komp, Krieger, Read, Whisnant, Macpherson

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Darian Stanford, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Adds exception to crime of failing to report precursor substance transaction for transactions involving sale or transfer of isomers of precursor substances except for optical isomers.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- · Federal statutes already addressed isomer/optical isomer issue
- Idea is that this class of transaction presents no need for reporting
- · Success of methamphetamine lab elimination efforts

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 475.940-475.980 discuss "precursor substances" and related offenses. Generally, precursor substances refer to chemicals needed to manufacture illegal drugs. ORS 475.940 identifies over forty specific "precursor substances," including pseudoephedrine, red phosphorous, and some forms of iodine. ORS 475.950 makes the failure to report certain "precursor substance" transactions in the proper manner (to the Oregon State Police) a Class A misdemeanor.

There is presently a list of eight exceptions to this reporting requirement in ORS 475.950(2). HB 2782 adds a ninth exception for persons who sell or transfer "an isomer of a precursor substance, unless it is an optical isomer." Generally, an "isomer" refers to a chemical species with the same number and types of atoms as another chemical species, but possessing different properties. An optical isomer refers to chemical species that are mirror images of one another.