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

MEASURE: CARRIER:

REVENUE: No revenue impact	
FISCAL:	No fiscal impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact	
Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Beyer, Kruse, Prozanski, Walker, Burdick
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Matt Kalmanson, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	5/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires a county or other local government, before incurring costs to decontaminate properties deemed "unfit for use" because of drug activity, to provide notice to the owners and lienholders. Provides process for owner or lienholder to decontaminate and obtain "fit-for-use" certification for property within a reasonable time. Allows public body to decontaminate and obtain certification for the property if lienholders fail to do so. Establishes priority lien for costs incurred by public body to decontaminate and certify nuisance property, if certain requirements are met.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Mechanics of nuisance and fit-for-use statutes
- Cost of securing and certifying methamphetamine houses as fit for use
- Rights of lienholders

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 105.555(1)(c) provides that property that is determined to be not fit for use under ORS 453.876 and that has not been decontaminated and certified as fit for use within 180 days is declared to be a nuisance. ORS 105.560 permits governmental bodies to bring actions to restrain the nuisance. ORS 453.886 allows an owner of property deemed unfit for use under the nuisance laws to use the services of a contractor licensed by the Department of Human Services to decontaminate the property. ORS 105.585 currently provides that a lien created to secure a nuisance property has priority over all other liens and interests in the property. HB 3313 A would give priority to liens created to recover costs incurred to secure and decontaminate the property, so long as the owner or other lien-holders are provided notice and an opportunity to decontaminate and certify the property themselves.