

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	8 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Bonamici, Cameron, Flores, Komp, Krieger, Read, Whisnant, Macpherson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Barker
Prepared By:	Bill Taylor, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	4/18, 4/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires the Secretary of State (SOS) to regularly audit all county juvenile departments and audit at least four county departments each biennium except during the first biennium when the SOS must audit no fewer than eight departments. Requires the SOS, during the first biennium, to select four counties from the most populous departments and four departments from the least populous counties for audit. Requires the SOS, after the first biennium, to audit two departments from the most populous and two from the least populous counties that have not already been audited. Requires reporting to the Legislative Assembly and for SOS to pay auditing cost from available funds. Requires the first audit period to begin July 1, 2007. Effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Counties will not have to pay for the audit

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Requires the SOS to perform an audit of no fewer than four counties each biennium during 2007-2009 and 2009-2011 biennia. Requires the SOS to submit to the Legislative Assembly a report containing audits of the county juvenile departments audited and include recommendations for the most efficient collection of future audit data. Requires the SOS to pay costs associated with auditing of counties from available funds or appropriations.

BACKGROUND: Counties are required to appoint a director of the county juvenile department (see ORS 419A.010). The director must: (1) Investigate every child brought before the juvenile court in the county; (2) Be present in court to represent the interests of the child when the case is heard; (3) Furnish such information and assistance as the court requires; and (4) Take charge of any child before and after a court hearing as may be directed by the court. The director has the power of a peace officer as to any child committed to the care of the county juvenile department. A county juvenile department is a county agency, and the county is responsible for the cost of maintaining a juvenile department. Nonetheless, the SOS, through the Oregon Youth Authority, assists counties in funding juvenile departments. Also, county juvenile programs currently are subject to state audit.