## 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:** Be Adopted as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

**Vote:** 6 - 1 - 0

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

Nays: Thatcher

Exc.:

**Prepared By:** Jim Stembridge, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/23

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Urges Congress to address comprehensive immigration reform, secure the nation's borders, address the escalating costs of illegal immigration, and appropriate funding to fully reimburse Oregon taxpayers for the costs of incarcerating criminal aliens.

**MEASURE:** 

**CARRIER:** 

**HJM 24 A** 

Rep. Komp

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Status of current national immigration system
- Historical aspects of immigration to the United States
- Border security
- Labor abuses
- Meaning of the concept "comprehensive immigration reform" and whether or not amnesty is included
- Current procedures for achieving citizenship
- Source of statistical information contained in the memorial, the Pew Charitable Trust
- Related issues such as identification, documentation, and voter registration

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Corrects error on proportion of United States workers who are undocumented immigrants, from one in five to one in 20.

**BACKGROUND:** The Bureau of Justice Assistance of the U.S. Department of Justice administers the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) with the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) of the Department of Homeland Security, providing federal payments to states and localities that incurred correctional officer salary costs for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens with at least one felony or two misdemeanor convictions for violations of state or local law, and incarcerated for at least 4 consecutive days during the reporting period.

According to the National Association of Counties (NACO), the funding reimbursement is inadequate. Ventura County, California, for example, spends more than \$81 per day per illegal alien inmate, while SCAAP reimbursement amounts to \$31 per day.

In a well-publicized 2006 incident, Umatilla County Sheriff John Trumbo, his 252-bed county jail budgeted to hold only 135 inmates, sent a bill to Mexican President Vicente Fox seeking reimbursement for the previous year's costs. A snapshot of his jail population, taken May 12, showed 25 illegal immigrants in jail, charged with 76 felonies and 53 misdemeanors, Trumbo said. "5,061 bed days were used by your citizens at a cost of \$63.00 a day which equates to a request for payment of \$318,843.00," Trumbo wrote to Fox. "At this time, you will not be billed for medical, dental and transportation costs incurred by your citizens."