

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	7 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Berger, Buckley, Esquivel, Hunt, Roblan, Thatcher, Rosenbaum
Nays:	-
Exc.:	-
Prepared By:	Jim Stembridge, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies and repeals laws relating to elections conducted at polling places.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of vote-by-mail in Oregon
- Confusion over polling-place statutes
- Storage of obsolete polling-place equipment
- Provisions for special needs of voters with disabilities

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Resolves conflicts with SB 84-A and SB 83-A.

BACKGROUND: Oregonians vote by mail in all elections. Beginning in 1981, the Oregon Legislature approved a test of vote-by-mail for local elections. In November 1998, Oregon voters expanded vote-by-mail to primary and general elections by a vote of 757,204 to 334,021. As a result, the last polling-place election held in Oregon was the November 1998 general election. SB 74-A removes references to polling place elections and obsolete references to punch card ballots.

Provisions of the original bill conflict with SB 84-A, the “reviser’s bill”, which corrects grammar and punctuation errors as well as deleting obsolete references in Oregon’s revised statutes. Provisions of the original measure also conflict with SB 83-A, which changes reference throughout Oregon statute to persons with disabilities. Because both SB 83-A and SB 84-A have passed in both the Senate and the House and are currently awaiting the Governor’s signature, SB 74-A has been amended to resolve the conflicts.

5/4/2007 2:33:00 PM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.