## 74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 74 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Sen. Brown

**Senate Committee on Rules** 

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

**Action:** Do Pass **Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Johnson, Monnes Anderson, Nelson, Brown

Nays: 0 Exc.: Ferrioli

**Prepared By:** Marjorie Taylor, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 2/22, 4/6

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

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- History of vote by mail in Oregon
- Other states that are using vote by mail for elections
- Community experience of voting in a polling place
- Travel distance to some polling places

## EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** In 1981, the Oregon Legislature approved a test of vote by mail for local elections. The last polling place election held in Oregon was the general election in November 1998 at which time citizens approved an initiative setting forth vote by mail for primary, general and other elections. Oregonians now vote by mail using ballots that are scanned by machine.

Provisions of SB 74 remove references to polling place elections and obsolete references to punch card ballots.