## 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:** Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

**Vote:** 6 - 0 - 1

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

Nays: -

**Exc.:** Thatcher

**Prepared By:** Jim Stembridge, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 5/21, 5/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows candidates or their treasurers to designate other persons to sign and certify contribution and expenditure statement. Allows candidate to designate another individual, besides treasurer, to sign checks for political committee expenditures. Requires candidates or treasurers to designate another person to receive campaign notices. Requires filing officers to send notices to candidates or treasurers and to the designated persons. Clarifies that a default or violation by a treasurer is considered a default or violation by the candidate or treasurer. Establishes deadlines for legislators to file statements of contributions received during a legislative session. Allows the Secretary of State to charge a fee of \$500 for delivering a statewide list of electors.

**MEASURE:** 

**CARRIER:** 

**SB 78 B** 

Rep. Buckley

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Second-person concept to be moved over from HB 2910 (2007)
- New electronic filing system for campaign contribution and expenditure reporting
- · Political committee staff filing vs. using vendors to do the filing
- · Lack of agency staffing for proposed late-evening filing
- Contributions to elected officials during legislative session
- Political action committee representatives who may be out-of-state or otherwise not easily available
- Complexity of reporting requirements
- Cost of producing lists of electors
- Authority to write checks

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Requires a political committee treasurer to designate a second person to receive filing officer notices. Allows candidate to designate another individual, besides treasurer, to sign checks for political committee expenditures. Resolves conflict with HB 2131.

**BACKGROUND:** Oregon does not have limits on campaign finance contributions or spending, but relies on full disclosure. Prior to the 2005 legislative session, Secretary of State Bill Bradbury appointed the Campaign Finance Disclosure Panel to review Oregon's campaign finance disclosure laws. The panel made recommendations for the 2005 Legislative Assembly to consider. HB 3458 B (2005), combined the work of the campaign finance disclosure panel, members Legislative Assembly, and various stakeholder groups, who proposed numerous solutions to problems with disclosure and reporting laws governing campaign finance.

Oregon has a new contribution and expenditure filing system, ORESTAR, that allows political committees to file statements electronically. Provisions of SB 78-B allow committees to appoint a proxy filer authorized to file transactions in the same manner as the candidate or treasurer.