

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Beyer, Kruse, Prozanski, Walker, Burdick
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Matt Kalmanson, Counsel
Meeting Dates: 2/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows the State Accident Insurance Fund (SAIF) to contract with the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to provide claim management services for claims filed by prisoners for injuries suffered during authorized work or occupational training.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- SAIF's history of administering claims by prisoners under ORS 656.752
- Need for clarification of SAIF's authority to contract with DAS to provide claims administration services in these circumstances
- Similarities between these claims and workers' compensation claims

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 655.505 to 655.555 provides that inmates may receive benefits for injuries suffered in an authorized work or occupational training assignment if certain statutory requirements are met. Claims for injuries to inmates in State correctional institutions are handled by the Risk Management Division of DAS. Since 1991, DAS has contracted with SAIF to manage these claims, which in many respects are similar to workers' compensation claims. SB 233 clarifies that SAIF has the authority to contract with DAS to provide this service.