74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Judiciary

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 3 - 0 - 2

Yeas: Kruse, Walker, Burdick

Nays: 0

Exc.: Beyer, Prozanski

Prepared By: Bill Taylor, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 1/31, 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires school employees to complete training each school year on the prevention and identification of child abuse and on the obligations of school employees to report child abuse. Requires schools to make this training available to school parents. Requires the Department of Human Services to make diligent efforts to notify the person who made the report of abuse about the outcome of the investigation, if the department was provided with information on how to contact this person. Applies to the 2007-2008 school year. Effective upon passage.

MEASURE:

CARRIER:

SB 379 A Sen. Walker

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Educational services districts will assist in providing the training
- Obligation of school personnel to report child abuse
- · Oregon School Personnel Association will assist in providing training

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Requires the Department of Human Services to make diligent efforts to notify the person who made the report of abuse about the outcome of the investigation, if the department was provided with information on how to contact this person.

BACKGROUND: Even though school employees are mandatory child abuse reporters, their employers (school districts) are not required to train their employees in the prevention and identification of child abuse. Also, Oregon's child abuse laws require certain professionals to report child abuse and allow anyone to file a report of child abuse to local law enforcement or the Department of Human Services. These laws do not require either to report back to the person filing the abuse complaint on the outcome of any investigation concerning the abuse allegation.