75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session MEASURE: CARRIER:

House Committee on Human Services

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 8 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Boone, Cowan, Dembrow, Freeman, Huffman, Maurer, Olson, Tomei

Nays: 0

Exc.: VanOrman

Prepared By: Keely West, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 1/30, 2/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires rental agreements to indicate whether smoking is prohibited on the rental property, allowed, or allowed only in specific areas on the property. Exempts owner occupied mobile homes and house boats from the rental agreement requirement. Specifies requirement be included in rental agreement and smoke detection statutes.

HB 2135 A

Rep. Dembrow

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effects of secondhand smoke; the manner in which smoke travels through ventilation systems; residue in areas where smoking has occurred
- Whether this legislation applies to all rental property or only multi-unit property
- · Whether tenants in a newly non-smoking complex will be notified of smokers grandfathered in
- If new tenants will be informed of past smokers in the apartments of a newly non-smoking complex

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes the requirement that landlords warn about possible exposure to secondhand smoke. Exempts owner occupied mobile homes and house boats from the requirement. Specifies requirement be included in rental agreement and smoke detection statutes.

BACKGROUND: In *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General*, the Surgeon General has concluded that:

- Secondhand smoke exposure causes disease and premature death in children and adults who do not smoke;
- Children exposed to secondhand smoke are at increased risk for sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respiratory infections, ear problems, and more severe asthma;
- Exposure of adults to secondhand smoke has immediate adverse effects on the cardiovascular system and causes coronary heart disease and lung cancer;
- Eliminating smoking in indoor spaces fully protects non-smokers from exposure to secondhand smoke. Separating smokers from non-smokers, cleaning the air, and ventilating buildings cannot eliminate exposures of nonsmokers to secondhand smoke.

According to the Oregon Department of Human Services, a recent study in Portland indicates more than 75 percent of renters would prefer to live in smoke free housing and half would pay extra to live in a smoke free building, but only 20 percent of rental properties are designated as non-smoking.