

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote: 9 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Boone, Cowan, Dembrow, Freeman, Huffman, Maurer, Olson, VanOrman, Tomei
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Keely West, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 3/20, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates a public task force of at least 11 members for the purpose of studying public guardian and conservator services in Oregon including need, models, efficacy, funding and legislative requirements. Directs task force to prepare recommendations and provide a cost assessment for implementation. Allows task force to accept donations of staff support, office space and equipment from advocacy groups in support of performance of its functions without appropriation. Declares an emergency.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for task force
- Work already done for task force implementation
- Need for public guardianship services

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Allows task force to accept donations of staff support, office space and equipment from advocacy groups in support of performance of its functions. Removes monetary appropriation.

BACKGROUND: In 1971, the Oregon State Legislature enacted ORS 125.700, an enabling statute allowing counties to establish Public Guardian and Conservator Programs. Two Oregon counties have implemented these programs. According to the Department of Human Services there is a need in Oregon for adoption of professional standards for guardians and conservators, and for coordination and oversight of state-wide program standards. Currently available public guardianship and conservator programs cannot meet demand.