

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass As Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	7 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Berger, Edwards C., Garrard, Gelser, Nolan, Read, Roblan,
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Jenson
Prepared By:	Jerry Watson, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/30, 5/15, 5/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Permits Secretary of State to designate one or more organizations to establish citizen panels to review not more than three initiated state measures and create statements of not more than 150 words on each measure reviewed. Limits the number of state measures for which any organization may establish citizen review panels. Requires secretary to print statements in voters' pamphlet, along with a disclaimer that the opinions expressed in the statement are not official opinions or positions endorsed by the State of Oregon or any government agency. Requires costs to convene and conduct a citizen panel and any costs associated with printing statements in the voters' pamphlet to be provided by organization that establishes citizen panel. Establishes eligibility criteria for organizations to be designated to review and create statements on initiated state measures. Requires designated organizations to ensure selection of panel members from a representative sample of anonymous electors using survey-sampling methods that give every elector a similar chance of being selected. Requires designated organizations "to the extent practicable and legally permissible" to ensure that demographic makeup of each citizen panel "fairly reflects" the population of the electorate with regard to a prioritized list of characteristics: location of residence; party affiliation, if any, voting history and age. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure
- Constitutional and legal limitations on restricting initiative process
- Lack of voter knowledge
- Experience with pilot review program in 2008
- Possible perception that state would be involved in measure advocacy through review panels
- Proposed amendments to measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces original measure.

BACKGROUND: In September, 2008, a provisional Citizen Initiative Review took place. Proponents assert that this provision review demonstrated the review process to be fair. Proponents further assert that citizens need additional information in order to make informed decisions and that statements from a citizen initiative review panel would help provide that information.