75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Education and General Government

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, Kruse, Metsger, Morse, Hass

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Dana Richardson, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 1/28, 2/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Teacher Standards and Practices Commission to reprimand or suspend or revoke the right for a license or registration for a person enrolled in an approved teacher education institution or program under certain circumstances. Requires the Commission to annually notify school districts and education service districts of such suspensions or revocations. Removes five year limitation on commission's power to revoke license or registration following conviction for certain crimes. Prohibits issuing a license to any person whose registration or license has been revoked in another jurisdiction for conduct substantially equivalent to existing grounds for revocation. Clarifies authority of Teacher Standards and Practices Commission to deny, suspend or revoke a license solely for conviction of certain crimes. Declares an emergency; effective July 1, 2009.

MEASURE:

CARRIER:

SB 47 A

Sen. Bonamici

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Types of conduct that may result in suspension or revocation of the right to apply
- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes suspension or expulsion from an institution or program as grounds to suspend or revoke the right to apply for a license or registration. Clarifies authority of Teacher Standards and Practices Commission to deny, suspend or revoke a license solely for conviction of certain crimes.

BACKGROUND: During the February 2008 Special Legislative Session, *The Oregonian* ran a series of articles describing school districts that were concerned about inappropriate and possibly sexual relationships between a teacher and a student or students. The article stated that districts had entered into settlement agreements whereby the teacher was allowed to resign from the district and receive a neutral or favorable recommendation if contacted by a future employer. No legislation was adopted during the 2008 Special Session to address the issue. The Interim House Education Committee and the Interim Senate Education and General Government Committee held a series of public hearings on the issue and appointed two work groups during the 2008 Interim. This measure is a product of those hearings and work groups.