

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	George, Girod, Rosenbaum, Bonamici
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Burdick
Prepared By:	Lori Brocker, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	1/29

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Allows recovery of collection fees and full wages or damages owed to complainant from respondent when Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) utilizes Department of Revenue for collection action. Allows BOLI to charge respondent collection fees and full wages or damages owed due to court order or final BOLI order. Amends civil rights and wage and hour laws to provide for recovery of collection fees and full wages or damages owed complainant. Limits authority to collect fees, and wages or damages owed, to proceedings in which BOLI has obtained judgment and all appeals have been exhausted.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Rate charged by Department of Revenue for collection action
- Rate charged by private collection agency
- Analysis applied to decide whether to use department or private collection agency

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) has jurisdiction over wage claims and civil rights violations. Judgments for successful complainants against a respondent in a BOLI action are by court order or final BOLI order in a contested case hearing. BOLI has the authority to refer a judgment against a respondent to the Department of Revenue for collection. Current law allows BOLI to charge a respondent fees incurred in the collection of a judgment if BOLI uses a private collection agency. Current law, however, does *not* allow BOLI to charge a respondent for fees incurred if the department is used to collect on the judgment. This statutory change would give BOLI the ability to recover the collection fees incurred, and full wages and damages owed, if BOLI refers collection to the department. Senate Bill 60 makes no change to BOLI's current ability to recover collection fees when using a private collection agency.