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

Senate Committee on Business and Transportation

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: George, Schrader, Verger, Metsger

Nays: - Exc.: Starr

Prepared By: Jim Stembridge, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes exemption from registering with the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying for engineering done on residences and small commercial buildings when performed by a registered professional engineer.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

· Unintended consequences of exempting registered engineers when they are doing minor engineering work

MEASURE:

CARRIER:

SB 143

Sen. George

- Standards of professional engineering
- Problem of incompetent work done by engineers registered in a different specialty

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon engineers are registered with the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) in one or more of the following disciplines: Acoustical; Manufacturing; Agricultural; Industrial; Chemical; Mechanical; Civil; Metallurgical; Control Systems; Mining; Electrical; Naval Architectural/Marine; Environmental; Nuclear; Fire Protection; Petroleum; Forest; Structural; Geotechnical; and Traffic. Persons who do engineering work on residences and small commercial buildings are exempt from registration but sometimes do the work based on their registration as an engineer, even if their specialty has little to do with residential or small commercial structures. According to the Board, a registered engineer recently failed to competently perform engineering services on an irregular-shaped residence, but OSBEELS was unable to take disciplinary action because of the current exemption.