

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0
Yeas: George, Schrader, Verger, Starr, Metsger
Nays: -
Exc.: -
Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Committee Staff
Meeting Dates: 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Makes personal identifier information provided in license or certification application to the Construction Contractors Board (CCB) confidential. Prohibits disclosure of Social Security numbers (SSN), driver license numbers, date of birth, and other personal information required for licensure. Provides exceptions. Exempts construction contractor from submitting personal identifier information to the CCB if contractor offers securities registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Exempts contractor that is partnership or joint venture offering securities registered with SEC from obtained new contractor license upon withdrawal of partner or venturer.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Purpose for the collection and utilization of personal identifier information of licensees.
- Security of personal information stored by the board.
- Protection of consumers from identity theft.
- Other provisions of the measure.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: As part of their Construction Contractors Board (CCB) licensure process, all applicants submit personal identifier information (date of birth and drive license numbers), with certain applicants also required to provide their social security numbers (SSNs) Oregon statute requires SSNs from all applicants, but Federal Law restricts the capture and distribution of the information. Applications submitted to the CCB are public record, not considered confidential and privileged under Oregon law. Thus, the CCB must disclose a licensee's application with personal identification information, when a public information request is made. SB 206 gives the CCB authority to prevent the distribution of personal information that is most commonly used to commit identity theft.

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the country. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reports that identity theft is the number one source of consumer fraud in the United States with the total monetary loss at \$1.2 billion. Based on FTC data, Oregon has ranked amongst the top ten states for identification theft occurrences.

All license applicants must disclose personal identifying information for their principals to allow the board to track contractors with bad debts or criminal convictions who leave one business and move to another. The board has stated that there is no need for this for three reasons: compliance is costly for large national homebuilders and home improvement retailers; no evidence that principals of large businesses leave and form new companies to avoid debts; personal information can be obtained from public filings because large businesses registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission provide detailed information about their principal officers.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.