

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, Boquist, Dingfelder, Whitsett, Prozanski

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Shannon Sivell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies crime of felon in possession of a restricted weapon to include an electro-muscular disruption technology (taser).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Danger to police and public
- Increased availability of taser technology to general public
- Importance of non-lethal force options for police
- Proposed amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently ORS 166.270 does not include any electronic stunning devices. Under this measure, a felon in possession of a taser would be charged with a class A misdemeanor. This bill is intended to address a growing threat to police officers and the public arising out of the increased availability of the civilian model of the taser. Eight states have passed statutes prohibiting the citizens from possessing tasers and similar technologies altogether.