

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Cameron, Clem, Conger, Matthews, Sheehan, Smith J., Holvey, Whisnant
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Jan Nordlund, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs member of the Commission for Women to elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson and determine the duties of the officers. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Purpose of the Commission for Women
- Current commission bylaws
- How similar commissions elect officers
- Officer serving more than one term

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: There are eleven members on the Commission: nine appointed by the Governor and one legislator appointed by the Senate President and one legislator appointed by the Speaker of the House. Under current statute, the Governor designates who the chairperson will be. However, the commission bylaws allow for members to elect the chair person and vice chair person by vote of the commission members.

In 1964, Governor Mark Hatfield established the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women to advise him of the needs and concerns of Oregon women. In 1983, Governor Victor Atiyeh gave the commission independent agency status, with a directive to continue its mission to strive for the implementation of programs and policies benefiting women. The Oregon Commission for Women was legislatively established in 1983 to work for women's equality.