

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee General Government and Consumer Protection

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued**

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
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:	4/19, 4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Reestablishes Oregon Board of Accountancy (Board) as a semi-independent state agency. Transfers moneys from Oregon Board of Accountancy Account to depository account established by Board. Directs Board to appoint budget committee to make recommendation on biennial budget. Allows Board to set fee for permit. Declares emergency, effective on passage and operative January 1, 2012.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Status of boards in other states
- Potential efficiency savings
- Effect on enforcement

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Allows Board to determine by rule fee for permit to engage in the practice of public accountancy. Moves the operative date to January 1, 2012.

BACKGROUND: Current statute recognizes 11 professional regulatory boards as semi-independent state agencies. The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy has formally adopted a position supporting establishment of semi-independent state boards of accountancy. Accountants in Nevada, Texas, North Carolina and North Dakota are currently regulated by semi-independent accountancy boards.

House Bill 3180-A adds the State Board of Accountancy to the list of semi-independent state agencies and grants it all the regulatory authority enumerated in ORS 182.454. The measure further allows for the transfer of funds and authority over pending proceedings to the reestablished Board. Additionally, the measure requires the Board to appoint six members to a budget committee for the purpose of making recommendations on the biennial budget.

Currently, there are eleven semi-independent state agencies: Appraiser Certification and Licensure Board, Board of Architect Examiners, Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying, Board of Geologist Examiners, Landscape Architect Board, Board of Optometry, Patient Safety Commission, Wine Board, Board of Massage Therapists, Physical Therapist Licensing Board, and Landscape Contractors Board.

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

Committee Services Form – 2011 Regular Session