76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 3259 A **CARRIER:**

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Judiciary

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

Vote: 9 - 1 - 0

> Garrett, Nolan, Olson, Schaufler, Tomei, Wand, Whisnant, Barker, Krieger Yeas:

Nays: Hicks Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Drew Johnston, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/22, 4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of Transportation to release driver's license photographs to licensed private investigators. Limits uses to those connected with civil and criminal proceedings and investigation in anticipation of litigation. Requires Department to adopt rules to establish requirements and procedure for request and issuance of photographs. Provides civil and criminal penalties for misuse of driver's license photograph.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cost savings and efficiency to private investigations with photographs
- Increased safety for private investigators
- Oregon's policies protecting personal information to a greater extent than federal minimums

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND: The Federal Driver Privacy Protection Act of 1994 prohibits release of personal information from state motor vehicle records except for certain permitted uses. The law was later updated to further limit use of "highly restricted" personal information, which includes driver license photographs.

Current Oregon law goes beyond the minimum federal protections, limiting use of driver photographs to police and Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) employees. DMV has an on-going relationship with licensed private investigators that allows private investigators to access all the personal information on a driver license, except for driver photographs.