76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session MEASURE: HJR 44 CARRIER: Sen. Atkinson

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Rules

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Be Adopted Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

> Atkinson, Beyer, Burdick, Ferrioli, Rosenbaum Yeas:

Navs: Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 6/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Changes terminology in Oregon Constitution from Legislative "Department" to Legislative "Branch", Executive "Department" to Executive "Branch", and Judicial "Department" to Judicial "Branch," Removes from Oregon Constitution gender specific references to office of Secretary of State. Refers to voters at next regular general election.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

Provisions of resolution

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: House Joint Resolution 44 is limited to changes in terminology, intended to bring language in the Oregon Constitution into agreement with current usage. The proposed changes make Oregon Constitution terminology consistent with what is taught in most modern-day civics and American government classes. The "department" language of the Oregon Constitution pre-dates the American Civil War.