

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bonamici, Dingfelder, Kruse, Whitsett, Prozanski
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Cheyenne Ross, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	2/3, 2/17

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Limits applicability of Uniform Act on Blood Tests to Determine Paternity (the Act) in criminal matters, to criminal nonsupport cases only. Applies retroactively.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Practical effect of strict reading of the Act
- Cost and time savings for testing

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Provisions of the Uniform Act on Blood Tests to Determine Paternity (ORS 109.250 through 109.264) apply to proceedings where paternity is at issue, including the establishment of parental rights and responsibilities and the payment of child support. The Act requires testing laboratories to be accredited to correspond with federal rules, while Oregon State Police forensic laboratories (OSP labs) are accredited to correspond with international standards to analyze evidence in criminal cases. Strict application of the Act prevents OSP labs from conducting paternity tests in criminal cases. Senate Bill 64 changes the section of the Act that makes it applicable to criminal cases, to limit it to criminal nonsupport cases only, so that OSP labs may perform paternity testing in all other criminal cases.