76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 381

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER: Sen. Prozanski

Senate Committee on Judiciary

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, Dingfelder, Kruse, Whitsett, Prozanski

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/17, 2/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes state professional responsibility board to name members of Oregon State Bar to investigate attorney conduct and eliminates use of local professional responsibility committees for that purpose.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Whether committee model outdated for purpose
- Inherent inefficiencies of committee structure and declines in volunteerism

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 381 comes from the Board of Governor's Section of the Oregon State Bar. The Bar currently relies on groups of volunteers organized into local professional responsibility committees to assist with investigating complaints against attorneys. Senate Bill 381 replaces the committee structure in favor of designation of individual members on an as-needed basis.