76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 488

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Sen. Bonamici

Senate Committee on General Government, Consumer and Small Business Protection

REVENUE: No revenue impact **FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 4 - 1 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, George, Monroe, Shields

Nays: Boquist Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases from \$100 to \$200 the maximum fee a judicial officer or county clerk may charge to solemnize marriage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

• Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Under Oregon law, marriages may be performed by judicial officers, county clerks, religious congregations and clergypersons authorized by their congregations or organizations to solemnize marriage. ORS 106.120 outlines specific fees for ceremonies performed by different entities: in cases where the ceremony is performed by a tax, appellate or circuit court judge, the clerk of the court collect a fee of \$25, which is deposited into the Judicial Department Operating Account; when a ceremony is performed by a county clerk, the \$25 fee is retained for the benefit of the county.

In addition to the required fees listed above, judicial officers and county clerks are authorized to charge and accept an agreed upon personal payment of up to \$100, plus actual costs, for solemnizing marriages that are performed outside of the official's normal working hours or at a place other than the courthouse where the official works. Senate Bill 488 increases the maximum personal payment to \$200.