76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 607

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Sen. Prozanski

**Senate Committee on Judiciary** 

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

**Action:** Do Pass **Vote:** 3 - 2 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, Dingfelder, Prozanski

Nays: Kruse, Whitsett

**Exc.:** 0

**Prepared By:** Aaron Knott, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 3/15, 3/23

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Creates a new offense of unlawful disposal of a tobacco product punishable by a maximum fine of \$90. Declares emergency; effective on passage.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Environmental hazards of cigarette butts
- Anecdotes regarding clean-up efforts
- Extent to which this proposal is already covered by existing anti-littering laws

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

**BACKGROUND:** ORS 164.805 details the crime of Offensive Littering, a Class C misdemeanor. This crime is committed if a person creates an objectionable stench or degrades the appearance of property by discarding trash without permission upon the property of another or any public way, draining sewage upon the land of another or upon any public way, or by permitting any rubbish, trash, garbage or debris to be thrown from a vehicle that the person is operating. Senate Bill 607 adds a prohibition to this section for persons who knowingly dispose of a cigarette or cigar or the filter from either upon the land of another without the permission of the owner, or upon any public way. This offense would constitute a Class D violation punishable by a maximum fine of \$90.