

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Nathanson
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Nelson and
Sen. Boquist

Revenue: Revenue statement issued

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 17 – 5 – 3

House

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Garrard, Komp, Kotek, McLane, Nathanson, Whisnant

Nays: Freeman, Richardson, Thatcher

Exc: Nolan, G. Smith

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Whitsett, Winters

Nays: Girod, Thomsen

Exc: Verger

Prepared By: Michelle Deister, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: March 18, 2011

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Provides for payment of Oregon emergency benefits to qualifying individuals during emergency benefit period, defined as beginning after April 15 and ending on July 2, 2011, or on the date that the total amount of Oregon Emergency Benefit payments for the following week would exceed \$30 million. Requires Director of Employment Department to stop payments of Oregon emergency benefits when total amount of payments would exceed specified amount if paid for succeeding week. Sunsets on January 2, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The number of unemployed expected to qualify

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 638 provides up to six weeks of state-funded unemployment benefits to unemployed workers who have exhausted all other entitlement. Similar benefit extensions have been passed by the legislature in 2009 (HB 3483), and in 2010 (HB 3655).