

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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| <b>Action:</b>        | Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means |
| <b>Vote:</b>          | 6 - 0 - 0  |
| <b>Yeas:</b>          | Atkinson, Burdick, Edwards, Girod, Starr, Beyer            |
| <b>Nays:</b>          | 0  |
| <b>Exc.:</b>          | 0  |
| <b>Prepared By:</b>   | Richard Berger, Administrator                              |
| <b>Meeting Dates:</b> | 3/3  |

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Provides for payment of Oregon emergency benefits to qualifying individuals during emergency benefit period. 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:**

- High rates of unemployment in Oregon
- Need to transition unemployed into high growth job categories
- Willingness of unemployed to accept work while getting paid by unemployment

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

**BACKGROUND:** Senate Bill 638 renews legislation enacted in 2009 and 2010 by the Legislative Assembly. It provides up to six weeks of state-funded unemployment benefits to unemployed workers who have exhausted all other entitlement.