77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Transportation & Economic Development

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 10 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bentz, Cameron, Davis, Doherty, Gorsek, Lively, McKeown, Nathanson, Parrish, Read

MEASURE: HB 2261

CARRIER: Rep. Doherty

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Troy Rayburn, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Specifies that provisional driver license restrictions do not apply to persons 18 years of age or older. Amends ORS 807.122 to direct the Department of Transportation to place restrictions on operation with provisional driver license, including age and number of passengers, time of operating a vehicle, destination restrictions, and employment circumstances.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Background on Graduate Driver License (GDL) law
- Ambiguity in interpretation 18 year old threshold
- Reasons to clarify GDL restriction at age 18

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Graduated Driver License (GDL) law allows 16 and 17 year olds to obtain a driver license, but prohibits these young drivers from driving during certain night time hours and limits the number of passengers. The law was intended to impose these GDL restrictions for one year, or age 18, whichever comes first. A few cases have arisen in the last few years in which law enforcement cited 18-year olds -- who had their license for less than one year --for violating GDL restrictions. The Oregon Department of Transportation estimates about 7,000 17-year olds per year receive a driver license for the first time. Since implementing the 1999 GDL restrictions, deaths and serious injuries involving teens behind the wheel have decreased by more than 50 percent.