#### 77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2013 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY Senate Committee on Rural Communities & Economic Development

## **MEASURE: SB 173 CARRIER:**

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued	
Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Baertschiger, Burdick, Close, Prozanski, Roblan
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Racquel Rancier, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/21, 4/4

# **REVENUE:** No revenue impact

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates service delivery technical assistance program in Governor's Office to assist counties in fiscal distress through grants for service delivery innovation, contracting for technical assistance, and convening task forces and work groups. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- New commissioners may not have expertise or experience to identify ways to provide services with limited budgets
- Proposed State and Local Government Efficiency Program would be similar to programs in other states that help local governments work together to increase efficiency and cost savings and engage in collaborative efforts such as shared service delivery

## EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Historically, the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Community Self Determination Act has provided funding to 33 of Oregon's 36 counties to offset the financial loss incurred because of reduced economic activity on federally-owned forest land. The SRS expired on September 30, 2011 and Congress enacted a one-year extension of the SRS payments in 2012. The decline in federal payments to counties has led to the development of tools to assist counties experiencing fiscal distress. Senate Bill 173 authorizes the Governor's Office to create a program to help counties in fiscal distress address service delivery challenges.