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

House Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 9 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Gallegos, Gilliam, Gorsek, Greenlick, Harker, Huffman, Johnson, Whisnant, Dembrow

MEASURE: HB 3245 A

CARRIER: Rep. Huffman

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Victoria Cox, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/3, 4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Prohibits inmates in custody of Department of Corrections (DOC) from performing electrical or plumbing work unless under direct supervision of regular status DOC employee who is licensed electrician or plumber. Limits electrical or plumbing work that may be performed by inmates to facilities owned or leased by DOC. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Lack of licensed tradesmen at minimum security facilities
- Potential increased cost to prison system
- State liability for results of problems related to unsupervised work
- Impact on apprenticeship programs

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Limits applicability to plumbing and electrical work. Limits plumbing or electrical work that may be performed by inmates to facilities owned or leased by DOC.

BACKGROUND: Currently, ORS 421.445 provides that inmates participating in programs operated by Oregon Corrections Enterprises may be supervised by any employee or agent of a local, state, or federal agency who has received security training provided by DOC. House Bill 3245-A specifies that supervision of an inmate performing work as part of a plumbing or electrical apprenticeship program must be provided by a regular status employee of DOC who is licensed in the respective trade. The measure further specifies that work may only be performed at facilities either owned or leased by DOC.