

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Baertschiger, George, Monnes Anderson, Prozanski, Shields
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Channa Newell, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/5, 4/12, 4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates Oregon Civil Rights Task Force. Directs Task Force to develop guidelines to eliminate discriminatory practices in state government, conduct investigations into discrimination or systemic inequalities and report on findings, identify means to increasing compliance with laws on discrimination, and develop plan for coordinated enforcement of laws on discrimination and fairly eliminating inequalities. Specifies Bureau of Labor and Industries provide support to Task Force. Specifies Task Force membership. Requires Task Force submit report to specified interim Legislative Committee no later than October 1, 2014. Sunsets Task Force when 2015 regular session of Legislative Assembly convened. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Systemic inequities in Oregon state government practices
- Need for unified group to investigate discrimination in state government
- Effect of measure on Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the original measure.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office (OACO) was established in 2005 to provide administrative support to the Commission on Hispanic Affairs, the Commission on Black Affairs, the Commission for Women, and the Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs.

Senate Bill 768-A creates the Oregon Civil Rights Task Force to develop guidelines for eliminating discriminatory practices in state government. The Task Force is authorized to conduct investigations into discrimination or systemic inequalities and report its findings, identify means to increase compliance with laws on discrimination, and develop a plan for coordinated enforcement of laws on discrimination.

The measure specifies memberships as follows: one each from Department of Justice, Employment Department, Department of Consumer and Business Services, Bureau of Labor and Industries, Department of Human Services, Department of Transportation, Oregon Disabilities Commission, Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Commission on Black Affairs, Commission for Women, and Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs; and four members of the public with expertise and experience in discrimination and equity issues, one each appointed by majority and minority leaders of each house, respectively.