77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 783 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Business and Transportation

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Be Referred to the Committee on

Ways and Means

Vote: 6 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Edwards, Girod, Monroe, Starr, Thomsen, Beyer

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/9, 4/16, 4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Changes continuing education requirements for commercial construction contractors. Establishes differing requirements based on number of years individual has been licensed. Revises criteria for Construction Contractors Board approval of continuing education programs. Requires Board establish category system for continuing education programs. Applies to licensing period beginning on or after January 1, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Continuing education requirement differences for commercial and residential contractors
- Not all continuing education requirements make sense for all trades in residential construction
- Continuing education in business practices versus trade-specific skills
- Reduction in continuing education requirement with certain level of experience

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Clarifies that Board will give consideration to continuing education program standards adopted by national construction licensing trade associations. Clarifies that Board will review and approve continuing education programs outline in Section 2(a) of the measure. Authorizes Board to establish fee for review of continuing education programs. Modifies required hours of training based on training type and experience of contractor.

BACKGROUND: The Construction Contractors Board (CCB) is the licensing and regulatory agency for residential and commercial construction contractors, as well as subcontractors and home inspectors, for the State of Oregon. The Board investigates and adjudicates complaints filed against licensees and assesses sanctions where applicable, and provides education and testing on construction laws and business practices.

The Legislative Assembly instituted the requirement for continuing education for all contractors with the passage of House Bill 2654 (2007). A second measure that session, House Bill 3242, created separate continuing education programs for residential contractors and commercial contractors. The CCB adopted rules for the requirement after working with industry and other stakeholders. Commercial contractors are required to complete between 16-80 hours of continuing education during their two-year license period, depending on their commercial endorsement; residential contractors must complete 16 hours of continuing education, including eight hours in mandatory subject areas (building exterior shell training, building codes, CCB laws and regulations) and eight hours in elective subject areas.