77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Judiciary

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Close, Dingfelder, Kruse, Roblan, Prozanski

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Mike Schmidt, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 5/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Mandates that websites which post mug shots must remove them and all accompanying information when they receive a request in writing from a person who has been acquitted, or where charges have been dismissed, or if the crime was reduced to a violation, without charging the requesting party a fee for the removal. Provides party failing to remove the photograph and other information related to the arrest after being formally requested to do so commits an unlawful practice under ORS 646.608.

MEASURE: HB 3467 A

CARRIER: Sen. Dingfelder

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

• People can be personally and professionally damaged by mug shots that are impossible to take off the internet, even when there is no conviction

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The proliferation of persons "mug shots" on the internet is becoming big business and hard to stop. It happens whether or not the person is eventually acquitted or even where charges are dropped completely. A person who has been arrested at some point can easily be found on these websites with searches when they are applying for jobs, or are having other routine background checks performed. Some of these internet posting companies will allow removal of the mug shot with a filing charge, but the person paying the charge is likely to find that after they have paid one website, their photo appears on additional websites. These companies frequently download mug shots directly off of law enforcement websites.