77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2014 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 4068 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Sen. Close

Senate Committee on Judiciary

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass with Amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure. (Printed B-Engrossed)

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Close, Dembrow, Kruse, Roblan, Prozanski

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Bill Taylor, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/19, 2/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows a person with one violation or misdemeanor conviction for marijuana possession or one court diversion for marijuana possession to apply for a concealed firearm permit regardless of whether the conviction was in Oregon or in another state. Allows a person convicted of misdemeanor marijuana possession to obtain a concealed firearm permit after waiting four years from the date of conviction. Applies to license applications submitted on or after the effective date of this Act.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Out-of-state convictions treated same as in-state-convictions
- Person seeking license needs to demonstrate he or she has only one conviction of a marijuana conviction
- Misdemeanor marijuana possession treated similarly to any misdemeanor conviction
- Court diversion

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Treats a person convicted of marijuana possession in another state the same as a person convicted in Oregon of the same offense for the purposes of obtaining a concealed firearm permit. Allows a person convicted of misdemeanor marijuana possession to obtain a concealed firearm permit after waiting four years from the date of conviction.

BACKGROUND: It is a crime to possess marijuana in Oregon unless a person has a right to do so under Oregon's Medical Marijuana Act, ORS 475.300 to 475.346. The penalty for illegally possessing marijuana depends on the amount possessed. If the amount possessed is four avoirdupois ounces or more, possession is a Class C felony. If the amount is less than four avoirdupois ounces, but more than one avoirdupois ounce, possession is a B misdemeanor. If the amount possessed is less than one avoirdupois ounce, possession is a violation with a presumptive fine of \$650. Possession of one-quarter ounce or more of a marijuana product is a C felony. Possession of under that amount is a B misdemeanor. Currently, a person who has been convicted of a violation for possessing marijuana is not disqualified from obtaining a concealed firearms permit if otherwise eligible to do so. Measure would apply to out-of-state convictions as well in state convictions.