

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Workforce

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Matthew Germer, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Prohibits a state agency from prequalifying a prospective bidder that employs 40 or more workers unless the prospective bidder submits a certificate showing participation in Department of Administrative Services pay equity training program. Directs Department to establish a pay equity training program. Requires contractors allow employees to discuss compensation and benefits with other employees without retaliation. Becomes operative on January 1, 2016. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

(-1) Replaces bill

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) oversees the contracts between state agencies and contractors. DAS follows the Public Contracting Code in order to provide stability and predictability, equal treatment for all, reliability and integrity, and clarity. Currently, contractors may prequalify for public contracts by following certain procedures.

Senate Bill 491 requires contractors with 40 or more workers to submit a certificate showing participation in a DAS pay equity training program. The measure also prohibits contractors from retaliating against employees who discuss compensation and benefits with one another.