

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: Considers foster parents as public employees for the purpose of labor organization. Prohibits foster parents from striking. Designates appropriate bargaining unit for foster parents.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: Children are placed in foster care for different reasons. Sometimes their families cannot provide them with the basic safety and protection they need. Many have also faced experiences with parental substance abuse, sexual or physical abuse, and abandonment. The Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) places foster children in the homes of willing foster parents. Foster parents are provided compensation for food, clothing, housing, personal incidentals, and transportation ranging from \$575 to \$741 per month based on the age of the child.

Senate Bill 311 defines foster parents as public employees for the purpose of labor organization and prohibits foster parents from striking.