

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Judiciary

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, statement not yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Eric Deitrick, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes legislative findings of fact regarding the importance of privacy. Creates Joint Legislative Committee on Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight (“Committee”). Establishes membership and responsibilities of Committee. Requires public bodies that use surveillance equipment to develop written policies and submit an annual report to Committee. Requires Committee to study these reports and produce biannual findings and recommendations.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 904 establishes legislative findings of fact regarding the importance of privacy. It establishes the Joint Legislative Committee on Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight (“Committee”). The bill requires public bodies that use “surveillance equipment or services” to establish policies, draft annual reports on their practices, and produce those reports to the Committee. The bill defines those terms and establishes the content of the reports. Public bodies that fail to produce the required reports are prohibited from using “surveillance equipment or services.”

The Committee would be a standing committee. It would review these reports and make findings and recommendations biannually.