

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Workforce

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Matthew Germer, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 2/11, 3/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries to issue warrants for debts not paid within 30 days of the due date. Requires warrants issued by the Department include the principal amount of the debt, any interest, and other costs, must be filed with the clerk of any county in the state, and must be mailed to the debtor at the debtor's last known address.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Tolling period
- Uses and importance of warrants
- Industries of greatest impact

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

(-1) Requires entry of judgment and expiration of time period for notice of appeal before Commissioner of Bureau of Labor and Industries can issue warrants

BACKGROUND: Currently, when an order for wages has been finalized or a settlement reached, employers are required to deliver payment for those wages due to workers. According to the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI), some employees move assets or change business names to avoid payment of wages. As a result, some employees never get paid the wages they earned. In total, BOLI has recorded around \$17 million in unsatisfied judgments in the last 10 years.

Senate Bill 468 authorizes BOLI to issue warrants for debts not paid within 30 days of the due date. These warrants must include the principal amount of the debt, any interest, and other costs, must be filed with the county clerk, and must be mailed to the debtor at the debtor's last known address.