

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: 3/16, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires qualified nonprofit agencies for individuals with disabilities to pay individuals with disabilities at least minimum wage or prevailing wage if employed on public works project. Assigns enforcement to the Department of Administrative Services. Becomes operative January 1, 2016. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact on jobs at QRFs
- Impact on public contracts
- Value of QRF employees

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: The Qualified Rehabilitation Facility (QRF) program administered by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) promotes employment opportunities through public contracts for people with disabilities. State and local government agencies are required to purchase products and services from QRFs at prices determined by DAS as long as the goods and services meet the agencies' specifications and timing needs.

Senate Bill 555 requires QRFs to pay employees with disabilities at least the minimum wage or the prevailing wage.