78th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2015 Regular Session

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Judiciary

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but statement not yet issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action: Vote:

Yeas: Nays: Exc.:

Prepared By: Laura Handzel, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/18, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Repeals former provisions of Uniform Interstate family Support Act. Incorporates most recent version of federal Uniform Interstate Family Support Act into Oregon law.

MEASURE: SB 604

CARRIER:

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
- Purpose and activity of Uniform Law Commission
- Federal money attached to passage of Senate Bill 604
- Hague Convention and treaty ratification status
- Importance of uniformity
- Congressional input
- Benefits of incorporating
- Social Security Act and child support program

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Proposed -7 amendment combines changes made in the -1, -2, -3, -5 and -6 amendments. These changes:

- Clarify that the Division of Child Support of the Department of Justice (DCS) is the support enforcement agency;
- Increases number of days from two to seven in which DCS must provide copies of notice or communication to petitioner;
- Clarifies Attorney General is appropriate state official to make certain determinations and orders;
- States ORS 109.070 is applicable law addressing acknowledged fathers;
- Clarifies that Department of Justice is recognized as agency designated by U.S. central authority to perform specific functions; and
- Clarifies definition of "governmental entity" to mean "administrator as defined in ORS 25.010"
- Other non-substantive changes

BACKGROUND: 2014 federal legislation requires all states to enact the 2008 Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) Amendments as a condition of continuing to receive federal funds for state child support programs. Failure to enact these amendments during the 2015 legislative session may result in the loss of important federal funding.

Senate Bill 604 incorporates the 2008 UIFSA Amendments into Oregon law.