

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: 4/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Changes definition of “local government” for purpose of public employee benefit plans.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: The Public Employees’ Benefit Board (PEBB) designs, contracts and administers a program of benefits for the state as the employer and state employees. The benefits include medical and dental coverage; life, accident, disability and long-term care insurance; and flexible spending accounts. PEBB also offers health care insurance options for retirees not yet eligible for Medicare and individuals in other participating groups. PEBB’s total membership is approximately 127,000 individuals. Currently, under Oregon law, local governments such as cities, counties or special districts can enroll in benefits plans offered by PEBB.

Senate Bill 681 changes the definition of “local government” for purpose of public employee benefits plans to include inter-governmental entities.