78th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2015 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 495 **PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Business and Transportation

REVENUE: FISCAL:

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action: Vote:

Yeas: Nays: Exc.:

Prepared By: James LaBar, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Eliminates exception to safety belt laws that allows person to not use safety belt if all seating positions in vehicle are occupied.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: ORS 811.25 currently allows an exemption to the seatbelt requirement if all the seatbelts in a car are occupied. Senate Bill 493 proposes to remove that exemption that allows a person to not use safety belt if all seating position in the vehicle are occupied.

The catalyst for the measure was a local accident when a mother driving a group of teenagers in a car that did not have all of the children in seatbelts. She was acting lawfully because she was carrying more passengers than she had seatbelts in the vehicle. Tragically, the children not in seatbelts were ejected and died.