

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Judiciary

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 4/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Secretary of State to report suspected fraud or other criminal activity found in course of audit to appropriate law enforcement agencies. Declares emergency; effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Secretary of State (SOS) is charged with the duty to review or audit the accounts and financial affairs of state agencies and departments, boards, commissions, and institutions. The audit power extends to school districts and educational service districts and funds transferred to counties, including lottery revenues, state highway funds, cigarette tax revenues, and Oregon Liquor Control Commission funds. Recent audits include Annual Reports on Oregon State Lottery Enterprise Funds, the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System, and the Oregon University System.

House Bill 2173 gives the SOS the clear authority to report suspected fraud or other criminal activities to the proper law enforcement agencies when suspected fraud is found in the course of an audit.

House: 57-0-3