

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date:

Action:

Meeting Dates:

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates 12-member Task Force on Immigration Consultant Fraud. Requires study on violations of prohibition on acting as an immigration consultant without bar license and practice of immigration consultants attempting to obstruct persons from reporting violations. Requires Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office to provide staff. Requires report to the Legislature no later than September 15, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fiscal impact of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In some Latin American countries, a "notario publico" is the equivalent of a bar-licensed attorney. In recent years, individuals have begun offering immigration consulting services in Oregon to the immigrant community under the title of a notario publico. Often, these individuals are not qualified or licensed to practice law. In 2013, the Legislature enacted measures to prohibit the use of the term "notario publico" by notaries and prohibited the offering of immigration consulting services by anyone but licensed attorneys.