

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Senate Committee On Judiciary

MEASURE: SB 386
CARRIER: Sen. Burdick

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact
Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/11/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 02/11

Senate

Yeas: 5 - Burdick, Gelser, Thatcher, Prozanski, Kruse

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Repeals sunset provision on current public records exemption for persons engaged in, or providing goods or services for, medical research using animals other than rodents at Oregon Health and Science University.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of bill and sunset provision, including extensions of sunset
- Need for scientists to feel safe in order for Oregon Health and Science University to retain talent
- Importance of law to animal caregivers and non-animal researchers
- Breadth and limitations of exemptions
- Need for scrutiny and transparency of tax-funded research
- Oversight of research by numerous outside entities
- Effects of existing law
- Media access

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under current Oregon law, a public records exemption exists for persons engaged in, or providing goods or services for, medical research using animals other than rodents at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU). Legislation creating this exemption originally passed in the 2003 Legislative Session and contained a sunset provision. The sunset provision has since been extended, most recently during the 2011 Legislative Session. At that time, the Legislature enacted an operative sunset date of January 2, 2016 for OHSU's public records exemption.

Senate Bill 386 removes the sunset provision entirely. Senate Bill 386 does not change the existing exception to OHSU's public records exemption when it is in the public interest to disclose.