

**Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session**  
**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**Senate Committee On Human Services and Early Childhood**

**MEASURE: SB 616 A**  
**CARRIER: Sen. Gelser**

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 03/12/15

**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Meeting Dates:** 02/24, 03/12

**Vote:**

Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Gelser, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Olsen

**Prepared By:** Cheyenne Ross, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires Secretary of State to investigate Community Housing Trust Account with Department of Human Services' assistance. Specifies focus of investigation. Requires development of investment strategy and report to legislature by February 1, 2016. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- History of Fairview Trust, distinct from General Fund
- Secretary of State's existing audit authority

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Substitutes Secretary of State for Treasurer and makes other adjustments to capture credits to fund.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Community Housing Trust Account (the Trust), commonly referred to as "the Fairview Trust" was funded by the sale of land following closure of the Fairview Training Center in 2000, where intellectually and developmentally-disabled persons had been institutionalized since 1908. The majority of sale proceeds used to fund the Trust, 95 percent, are required to be held in an interest-bearing account in perpetuity; the remaining 5 percent of the sale proceeds, plus interest on the corpus of the trust, are used to support community housing for adults and children with disabilities. Funds from the Trust have been used for construction and equipment and have provided assistance to over 1,000 Oregon households, with grants ranging from \$120 to \$5000. During the recession, the legislature diverted funds from the Trust and other accounts, to cover budget shortfalls for basic services across the state.

Senate Bill 616-A requires the Secretary of State to audit the Trust, develop an investment strategy, and report to the legislature by February 1, 2016.