

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Rules

MEASURE: HB 3015
CARRIER: Rep. Bentz

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact
Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 03/16/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 03/11, 03/16

Vote:
Yeas: 8 - Barnhart, Hoyle, Kennemer, McLane, Nosse, Rayfield, Smith Warner, Wilson
Exc: 1 - Gilliam

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds options for name after marriage or after entering into registered domestic partnership. Allows parties to retain or remove middle names and change surnames to one surname or combination of surnames. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Alignment with previous legislative action
- Establishing consistency in interpretation and application of ORS 106.220
- Clarifying ability to take one surname, or combination of surnames of either or both parties
- Impact on county clerks
- Importance of people being able to choose surname after marriage or entering into domestic partnership

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 106.220 governs the options for changing or retention of last names when individuals enter into marriage or registered domestic partnerships. Currently, upon entering into marriage or registered domestic partnership, either party may: (a) Retain the party's middle name, if any, and surname prior to the marriage; (b) Retain the party's middle name, if any, and change the party's surname to the surname of the other party; (c) Either retain or remove the party's middle name, if any, and change the party's surname to a combination of one or more of the surnames, or names within the surnames, of either or both parties, with or without a hyphen; (d) Change the party's middle name, if any, to the party's surname at birth or prior to the marriage; or (e) Add to the party's middle name, if any, the party's surname at birth or prior to the marriage and change the party's surname to the surname of the other party.

The name of each party after marriage as indicated on the application, license and record of marriage shall become the sole legal name of each party after marriage. If a party indicates a name change other than one based on the options in ORS 106.220, they would have to petition the Circuit Court which requires paying a \$111 fee.

House Bill 3015 allows parties, who enter into marriage or registered domestic partnership, the option to retain or remove middle names and change last names to one last name or combination of last names. The measure gives parties the ability to take one last name or a combination of last names of either or both parties.