

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/14/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended And Be Printed Engrossed.

Meeting Dates: 02/12, 04/14

Vote:

Yeas: 8 - Barker, Barton, Greenlick, Krieger, Lininger, Post, Sprenger, Williamson

Exc: 1 - Olson

Prepared By: Laura Handzel, Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires member of law enforcement agency possessing probable cause to believe custodial interference in the first or second degree, or kidnapping in the first or second degree, involving a child has occurred to notify Oregon State Police Missing Children Clearinghouse within 24 hours. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of 2004 Task Force on Parental and Family Abduction (Task Force)
- Task Force recommendation requiring notification of Oregon State Police within 24 hours
- Amendment needed to clarify language
- Severity of parental and family abductions
- Current reporting process and databases
- Amber Alerts

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Clarifies when member of law enforcement must notify Oregon State Police Missing Children Clearinghouse to include when they have probable cause to believe custodial interference in first or second degree, or kidnapping in the first or second degree, of a child has occurred.

BACKGROUND:

In 1989, the Oregon Legislature mandated that the Oregon State Police (OSP) establish and maintain the Missing Children Clearinghouse. The OSP Criminal Investigation Division maintains the Clearinghouse, which collects, stores and disseminates information about Oregon's missing children in an effort to locate them.

Problems have been identified with the Clearinghouse, specifically that it has not always listed all of Oregon's missing children. A comparison conducted on February 11, 2015, to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children database, highlights the issue; while the national system listed 43 missing Oregon children, the Missing Children Clearinghouse listed 40.

House Bill 2601-A requires a member of a law enforcement agency possessing probable cause to believe custodial interference in the first or second degree, or kidnapping in the first or second degree, involving a child has occurred, to notify the OSP Missing Children Clearinghouse within 24 hours. House Bill 2601-A contains an emergency clause and is effective upon passage.