

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, Be Printed Engrossed, And Rescind Subsequent Referral To Ways And Means.

**Meeting Dates:** 04/07, 04/14

**Vote:**

Yeas: 9 - Barker, Barton, Greenlick, Krieger, Lininger, Olson, Post, Sprenger, Williamson

**Prepared By:** Laura Handzel, Administrator

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Updates and provides additional clarification to adoption laws. Updates written certification and declaration requirements. Changes some requirements of Adoption Summary and Segregated Information Statement, including adding exceptions. Clarifies that presiding judges have access to court adoption records. Outlines what information must be disclosed or redacted. Updates records requirements and adds clarification addressing re-adoption. Addresses process and fees when multiple children adopted. Clarifies when Indian Child Welfare Act procedures initiated. Contains non-substantive scrivener's changes.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- 37-member work group
- Shifts in adoption law over time
- Consensus Senate Bill 623 and sweeping changes implemented
- Need for adoptees to know their story and family background
- Oregon law as a national model
- Framework lacking for re-adoption
- Re-adoptions filed on a regular basis
- Proposed -3 amendments
- Fiscal impact not expected
- Possibility of removing subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means
- Removal of emergency clause

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Replaces measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2010, the Oregon Judicial Department requested the Oregon Law Commission to review adoption law, specifically the issue of access to the court's adoption files. In 2012, the Adoption Work Group (Work Group) formed to address this issue along with other substantive matters. In 2013, Senate Bill 623 passed as a result of the Work Group's efforts. Then in 2014, House Bill 1536 passed, which provided additional clarity on the work done via Senate Bill 623.

House Bill 2365-A is the result of the Work Group and provides additional clarification to work done during previous sessions. The bill updates adoption laws with non-substantive scrivener's changes. It additionally updates written certification and declaration requirements. House Bill 2365-A changes some requirements of Adoption Summary and Segregated Information Statement, including adding an exception to information required by the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act when the Department of Human Services or an approved child-caring agency placed a minor child with a

foster parent. The bill clarifies that presiding judges have access to court adoption records. Additionally, the bill outlines what information must be disclosed or redacted. House Bill 2365-A addresses both process and fees when multiple children are adopted. It updates records requirements and adds clarification addressing re-adoption. House Bill 2365-A also clarifies when Indian Child Welfare Act procedures are to be initiated.