

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/20/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments And Requesting Referral To Ways And Means.
(Printed A-Engrossed.)

Meeting Dates: 03/02, 04/20

Vote:

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

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Human Services to convene work group to study confidentiality release forms for use by public bodies and community care organizations providing health care or human services. Specifies members. Requires report to Legislative Assembly in 2016 regular session. Requires Department of Justice to collaboratively review state laws and identify statutes that could be modified to facilitate communications between public bodies. Requires legislative proposals be submitted for 2017 legislative session.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Services may be provided or offered across multiple agencies
- May need new confidentiality release form at each agency
- Barriers to effective inter-government communication
- Effects of measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND:

Public bodies in Oregon include state government organizations, local governments, and special government bodies such as school districts, educational service districts, community colleges and universities with governing boards, and public corporations. Public bodies have access to a wide variety of confidential information including health records and school records.

Senate Bill 670 A establishes a work group to study the development of a standardized confidentiality release form. The measure also tasks the Department of Justice with examining statutes on confidentiality and to develop a legislative proposal for the 2017 session to modify existing statute to facilitate better communication between public bodies.