

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/20/15

Action: Do Pass As Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, And Bill Be Referred To Ways
And Means.

Meeting Dates: 04/13, 04/20

Vote:

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

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates 12-member Task Force on Immigration Consultant Fraud. Requires study on violations of prohibition on acting as immigration consultant without bar license and practice of immigration consultants attempting to obstruct persons from reporting violations. Requires Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office to provide staff. Requires report to Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Confusion created by term “notario”
- Current limitations on services offered by notarios or immigration consultants
- Effects of amendment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND:

In some Latin American countries, a “notario publico” is the equivalent of a bar-licensed attorney. In recent years, individuals have begun offering immigration consulting services in Oregon to the immigrant community under the title of a notario publico. Often, these individuals are not qualified or licensed to practice law. In 2013, the Legislature enacted measures to prohibit the use of the term “notario publico” by notaries and prohibited the offering of immigration consulting services by anyone but licensed attorneys.

House Bill 3525 A creates a 12-member Task Force on Immigration Consultant Fraud to report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2015.