

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/29/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 04/29

Vote:

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

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows parties to request certain documents without filing a request for modification of judgment when a judgment of marital annulment, dissolution or separation includes award for spousal support and any portion of obligation remains due and owing.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Improvements needed in current mechanism
- Unnecessary litigation, costs, and attorney involvement
- Built-in protections
- Simultaneous release of information
- Work with domestic violence advocates to protect victims
- No administrative process involved
- Similarity to child support modification mechanism
- HB 2559 during 2013 Legislative Session and additional work needed
- HB 2332 as a common sense and no-cost solution

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under current Oregon law, the only means of determining whether a modification of spousal support is warranted due to a substantial change in economic circumstances is to actually file a modification action.

House Bill 2332 allows a party to request, once every two years, certain documents in writing without filing a request for modification of the judgment if a judgment of marital annulment, dissolution or separation includes an award of spousal support for which any portion of the obligation remains outstanding. Documents that may be requested include: 1) the first and second pages of the most recently filed state and federal tax returns; or 2) if no income tax return was filed in the last calendar year, all W-2 statements, year-end payroll statements, interest and dividend statements as well as all other records of income earned or received during the last calendar year. The bill allows the responding party to redact all account numbers, personally identifying and contact information. House Bill 2332 mandates that the responding party comply unless the requesting party does not simultaneously provide the same documents.