

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/30/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 04/30

Vote:

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

Prepared By: Jeff Rhoades, Counsel

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Renames crime of patronizing a prostitute to “commercial sexual solicitation.”

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Substance of the bill
- Emotional impact of labeling an individual as a “prostitute”
- Psychology of human trafficking

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 167.008 provides the elements for the crime of patronizing a prostitute. In some circumstances, an individual can be solicited for sex and deny the request, but may be labeled a prostitute during the prosecution of the individual soliciting sex. “Patronizing a prostitute” may also misidentify victims of sex trafficking.

House Bill 2206 seeks to prevent these situations by relabeling the crime of “patronizing a prostitute” to “commercial sexual solicitation.”