

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services and Early Childhood

**Fiscal:** No Fiscal Impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

**Action Date:** 05/05/15

**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments To The A-Eng Bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

**Meeting Dates:** 05/05

**Vote:**

Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Gelser, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Olsen

**Prepared By:** Cheyenne Ross, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Replaces existing State Housing Council with Oregon Housing Stability Council (new Council). Abolishes Advisory Committee on Energy, Community Development Incentive Advisory Board, and Interagency Council on Hunger and Homelessness and transfers responsibility to new Council. Authorizes new Council to provide Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) with financial and budgetary oversight. Transfers responsibility for Oregon Hunger Relief Task Force to Department of Human Services and defines funding mechanism. Clarifies name changes and usage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Culmination of two years' self-examination by OHCS
- Aligning overarching policy and business plan
- Improving and streamlining governance, oversight, and service delivery
- Mission of both OHCS and Oregon Housing Stability Council

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Permits Community Action Partnerships of Oregon to advise OHCS and new Council.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2012, Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) was directed to examine and assess its service delivery systems, governance, and partnerships. It made consensus recommendations to the legislature in February of 2014 to effect a restructuring transition and address administrative inefficiencies. House Bill 2442-B captures those recommendations.

House Bill 2442-B replaces the existing State Housing Council with a new Oregon Housing Stability Council (the new Council), expands the new Council's responsibilities, increases its membership from seven to nine, and authorizes it to provide oversight and policy direction across OHCS program areas. The measure abolishes and transfers authority of three bodies to the new Council: the Advisory Committee on Energy, the Community Development Incentive Advisory Board, and the Interagency Council on Hunger and Homelessness. In addition, the measure transfers responsibility for the Hunger Relief Task Force to the Department of Human Services. Finally, the measure relieves OHCS of its role in relation to Housing Cost Impact Statements.

House Bill 2442-B codifies OHCS' transition plan by consolidating several commissions and task forces and centralizing responsibilities within a new Oregon Housing Stability Council.