

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/12/15

Action: Do Pass The A-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 05/12

Vote:

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

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Restricts Social Security numbers, driver license numbers, and taxpayer identification numbers in certain court documents to last four digits of such numbers. Prohibits the inclusion of address of victim within judgment containing a money award in criminal action. Becomes operative January 1, 2016. Allows rulemaking prior to operative date. Declares emergency; effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Implementation of Oregon eCourt
- Potential for misuse of information
- Importance of protecting taxpayer identification number, Social Security number, and victim address

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2012, Oregon courts began operation of Oregon eCourt. With the move to electronic court documents, there may be an increased risk that sensitive personal identifiers can be accessed by a wider audience.

House Bill 2340-A seeks to protect personal information in certain court documents by restricting identifying information, such as Social Security numbers, tax payer identification numbers, and driver license numbers, to only the last four digits on certain publicly available documents. Additionally, if a restitution or compensatory fine is ordered, only the name of the person may be included, not the address.