

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 06/23/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 06/23

Vote:

Senate

Yeas: 12 - Burdick, Devlin, Girod, Hansell, Johnson, Monroe, Roblan, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Thomsen, Whitsett, Winters

House

Yeas: 10 - Buckley, Gomberg, Huffman, Komp, Nathanson, Rayfield, Read, Whisnant, Whitsett, Williamson

Exc: 2 - McLane, Smith

Prepared By: John Borden, Budget Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure establishes the Fund to End Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, separate and distinct from the General Fund, continuously appropriates the monies in the fund to the Department of Justice (DOJ), and credits interest earned back to the fund. The measure stipulates what the monies in the fund can be used for, and allows DOJ to solicit and accept contributions, both public and private.

The measure directs that DOJ shall establish an advisory committee to advise the department on policies and procedures and to make recommendations for the distribution of monies in the fund.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for vigorous prosecution of offenders
- Dedicated county prosecutors to sex crimes
- Definition of a "child"
- Modeled after the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Account (CAMI) and the Sexual Assault Victims Medical Response (SAVE) Fund
- Availability of results and supporting data
- DOJ testified that considerable private donations could be raised, and federal funding, but no specific commitments or details were identified

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The measure is a product of a workgroup led by former Rep. Tomei that sought to address the commercial sexual exploitation of children.