

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/02/16

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 02/02

Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Burdick, Ferrioli, Rosenbaum

Exc: 1 - Beyer

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies day on which odd-numbered year regular session of Legislative Assembly commences to be day after adjournment of organizational session or, if day after adjournment is Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday, on following Monday.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Permits legislature to complete work before end of fiscal year
- Advancements in legislative technology and website
- Ability of nonpartisan offices to prepare for odd-numbered year session sooner
- Does not change length of odd-numbered session

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In November 2010, Oregonians approved Measure 71, which amended Article IV, Section 10 of the Oregon Constitution to require the Oregon Legislative Assembly to meet in limited regular sessions in odd-numbered years and in even-numbered years. The odd-numbered legislative session may not exceed 160 days and the even-numbered session may not exceed 35 days. In addition, the Legislative Assembly is permitted to hold a pre-session organizational session, not subject to limits on number of calendar days.

Currently, the Oregon Legislative Assembly convenes for an organizational session prior to the start of the odd-numbered year session, on the second Monday of January, in accordance with Article IV, Sec 4 (2). Upon completion of the organizational session, the legislature adjourns, commencing on the first day of February to begin the session, unless that day is a Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday, and then regular session commences on the following Monday.

Senate Bill 1562 permits the Legislative Assembly to commence the odd-numbered year regular session, in January, upon completion of the organizational session.