78th Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2016 Regular Session

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Business and Transportation

Fiscal: No fiscal impact Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/15/16

Action: Do Pass The A-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 02/15

Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Girod, Monroe, Riley, Thomsen

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits shareholders in, and members of, cooperative corporations to vote by electronic means. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

MEASURE:

CARRIER:

HB 4038 A

Sen. Thomsen

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

Concern about possible voter fraud in electronic voting

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Voting requirements for both shareholders and members of cooperative corporations are set forth in ORS Chapter 62. Senate Bill 35 (2015) permits members of cooperatives to vote electronically in cases where the cooperative's bylaws allow electronic voting; however, shareholder voting was not addressed in Senate Bill 35.

House Bill 4038-A allows shareholders to vote by electronic means, provided that the method of voting complies with Oregon's Uniform Electronic Transactions Act. The measure also clarifies the existing statutory ability of members to vote by electronic means, bylaws permitting, if the member consents to receiving an electronic ballot.