

SB 692 -1, -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Whitney Perez, Counsel

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates money from General Fund to create pre-entry pilot program. Directs Public Defense Services Commission to report on result of program. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Directs Public Defense Services Commission (PDSC) to provide money to Metropolitan Public Defender Services (MPDS) if MPDS is maintaining a pre-entry pilot program in Multnomah and one rural county. Requires MPDS to collect and submit to PDCS data on this program. Directs PDSC to review data and prepare report by February 1, 2019.

-2 Incorporates the -1 amendment. Specifies type of data to be collected. Directs MPDS to create pre-entry checklist and partner with Department of Corrections.

BACKGROUND:

In 2015, the Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 969, which created the Task Force on Reentry, Employment and Housing (task force). The task force was directed to study and recommend methods and actions that state and local governments could take to assist persons reentering society following incarceration. As part of its work, the task force learned of the pre-entry program at Metropolitan Public Defender Services. This program assists persons in preparing for incarceration, such as teaching them how to defer or suspend financial obligations during incarceration. The task force recommended that a program for pre-entry services be established in order to assist persons with getting their affairs in order prior to incarceration.

Senate Bill 692 appropriates money from the general fund to create a pre-entry pilot program at Metropolitan Public Defender Services and an office in a rural county providing public defender services. It directs the Public Defense Services Commission to study the results of the pre-entry pilot program.