

SB 58 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

Prepared By: Matt Doumit, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/13, 3/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits Long Term Care Ombudsman or designee to represent resident of residential facility in contested case hearings. Renames Residential Facilities Advisory Committee to Residential Ombudsman and Public Guardianship Advisory Board. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

FISCAL: May Have Fiscal Impact, But No Statement Yet Issued

REVENUE: May Have Revenue Impact, But No Statement Yet Issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current process of representing long term care residents in administrative cases
- Provisions of measure
- Authority to draft administrative rules
- Effect of changes in federal law
- Suggested amendments

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 In progress.

BACKGROUND:

Current Oregon law establishes the office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman (the Office) as an independent advocate for individuals who reside in long-term care facilities.. The Office is tasked with investigating and resolving complaints against residential facilities, interviewing facility residents and employees, and providing other services to long term care residents. The Residential Facilities Advisory Committee nominates Ombudsman candidates, consults on rules adopted by the Office, monitors Office programs, and advises the Governor and the Legislature.

Senate Bill 58 permits the Long Term Care Ombudsman or designee to represent residents of residential facilities in contested case hearings before state agencies. The measure also renames the Residential Facilities Advisory Committee to the Residential Ombudsman and Public Guardianship Advisory Board.