

SB 508 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Conditionally exempts from public disclosure images that are part of law enforcement investigation and that relate to death of person.

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:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under Oregon's Public Records Law, the general rule is that all government records must be disclosed to the public. ORS 192.502 contains a number of exceptions to this rule, allowing but not requiring, public bodies to withhold records. Under ORS 192.502 (2), information of a "personal nature," including medical files, may be withheld if the disclosure would create an unreasonable invasion of privacy, unless the person seeking the information can demonstrate that the public interest requires disclosure. Senate Bill 508 would similarly treat images related to the death of a person that are part of a law enforcement investigation.