

SJR 38 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 5/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution requiring two-thirds majority vote in each legislative chamber for approval of measures declaring emergency. Refers measure to ballot at next general election.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Constitution precludes measures passed by the Legislative Assembly from becoming effective until 90 days after *sine die* of the session at which the measure was passed, unless an emergency has been declared and asserted in the text of the measure. Further, the legislature is prohibited from including a declaration of emergency in measures governing taxation or tax exemptions. Any measure, including budget appropriations, passed by the legislature without an accompanying emergency clause may be subject to voter referendum in order to affirm, revise or repeal the measure. Currently, the Oregon Constitution requires that measures which include an emergency declaration receive a majority vote in each chamber of the Legislative Assembly for passage.

Senate Joint Resolution 38 proposes an amendment to the Oregon Constitution requiring that measures declaring an emergency receive a two-thirds majority vote in each legislative chamber for approval, and refers the measure to the ballot at next general election.