

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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To: Public Safety Subcommittee

From: John Terpening, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: Monday, June 12, 2017

Subject: HB 2721 Relating to road worker safety
Work Session Recommendations

House Bill 2721 expands the crime of assault in the third degree to include physical injury to flaggers and highway workers performing official duties. The measure also includes a Task Force on Road Worker Safety which would be eliminated with the proposed amendment.

The original staff measure summary and the fiscal impact statements are available on the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS). The measure previously had hearings in the House Judiciary Committee on 3/7/2017 and 4/6/2017.

The Criminal Justice Commission projects five additional convictions for Assault III per year. Using the conviction rates for Assault III from 2014 to 2016, CJC estimates about one-third would result in a prison sentence within DOC, a little over half would receive probation on average of 30 months, and the rest would receive a jail sentence of about three months followed by probation. In total, this would add 1-2 inmates to the DOC population per year.

This measure is anticipated to have a minimal expenditure impact to the Department of Corrections, Judicial Department, Public Defense Services Commission, and District Attorney's and their Deputies.

Recommended Changes

The -1 amendment removes the Task Force on Road Worker Safety.

LFO recommends adoption of the -1 amendment.

MOTION: I move adoption of the -1 amendment to HB 2721. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that HB 2721, as amended, to be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move HB 2721, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____