

**SB 636 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Human Services**

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**Prepared By:** Matt Doumit, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Senate Committee On Judiciary

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Modifies finding of unsubstantiated report of abuse of child in care. 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:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

**BACKGROUND:**

Current Oregon law requires that investigations into reported abuse of a child in care by the Department of Human Services must result in one of three alternative findings: that the report was substantiated (i.e., there is reasonable cause to believe child abuse occurred); that the report was inconclusive (i.e., there was some evidence of abuse, but it was insufficient to justify reasonable cause); or that the report was unsubstantiated (i.e., there was no evidence of child abuse).

Senate Bill 636 permits finding that a report of abuse of a child in care is unsubstantiated when evidence exists but does not provide reasonable cause, rather than only when there is no evidence.