

HB 2594 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Sprenger

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 02/14/17

Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 10-0-1-0

Yeas: 10 - Barker, Gorsek, Greenlick, Lininger, Olson, Post, Sanchez, Sprenger, Stark, Vial

Exc: 1 - Williamson

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Whitney Perez, Counsel

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows nonimmigrant lawfully in United States under Compact of Free Association to serve as member of State Police, police officer, certified reserve officer, corrections officer or parole and probation officer.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Citizens of countries subject to a Compact of Free Association are eligible to serve in the Armed Forces
- Discussion of past Oregon legislation concerning residents subject to a Compact of Free Association
- Discussion that measure broadens law enforcement applicant pool while not reducing employment standards

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The United States has entered into agreements of free association with three Pacific Island nations: the Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and Republic of the Marshall Islands. These agreements allow citizens of these three nations to enter the United States as nonimmigrants.

Oregon law sets forth the qualifications to serve as a member of the State Police, police officer, certified reserve officer, corrections officer or parole and probation officer. One of those requirements is that a person must be a citizen of the United States. House Bill 2594 would amend existing law to allow nonimmigrants who are lawfully admitted to the United States pursuant to a Compact of Free Association to serve in these law enforcement positions.