

HB 2614 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Michael Lantz, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/21, 2/25, 3/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits imposition of driving privilege suspension for failure to pay traffic-related fines. Takes effect 91 days after adjournment.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impacts of license suspensions
- Definition of failure to comply
- Availability of hardship permits
- Data on traffic stops

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under ORS 809.210, a court can order the suspension of an individual's driving privileges if that individual fails to pay court fines related to a driving offense. The suspension will stay in place for 20 years unless the individual presents a reinstatement notice from the court to DMV showing that the individual 1) has paid the fine in full, 2) is making payments following a court approved payment plan, 3) is enrolled in an preapprentice program, or 4) is a registered apprentice. As of January 1, 2019, individuals who have had their driving privileges suspended are eligible to apply for a hardship permit. These permits allow suspended individuals to drive for certain specific purposes, such as for work or medical treatment.

HB 2614 prohibits courts from imposing driving privilege suspensions based on an individual's failure to pay traffic-related court fines.