SB 773 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Gillian Fischer, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Provides that professional licensing boards, authorized to license or certify person providing occupational or professional services, shall study the criminal background and character standards used in approving applicants for licensure or certification. Requires each board to identify methods to reduce barriers for applicants who do not qualify for licensure based on their criminal background or character and submit a report to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to the workforce not later than December 31, 2020. Sunsets on January 2, 2021.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The state of Oregon doesn't have a general business license. However, many occupations and business activities require special licenses, permits or certifications from state agencies or boards. Cities and counties may require a license for businesses operating in their jurisdictions.

Senate Bill 773 requires professional licensing boards to identify and report criteria in their certification process that is specific to an applicants criminal background or character.