

**SB 838 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Rules**

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**Prepared By:** Josh Nasbe, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 3/27

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Reduces voting age from 18 to 16. Conditions effectiveness of statutory change on approval of constitutional amendment contained in Senate Joint Resolution 22.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Under current law, an individual who is otherwise qualified and at least 16 years of age may register to vote, although the registration does not become effective until the person attains 18 years of age. Senate Bill 838 authorizes 16- and 17-year old Oregonians who are registered to vote to do so. The bill becomes effective if the amendment to the Oregon Constitution proposed in Senate Joint Resolution 22 is approved by the people at the next regular general election.