

HB 2487 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/4, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Department of Administrative Services to conduct study and make recommendations regarding use of blockchain technologies to administer public services.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Blockchain is a cryptographically-secured distributed ledger that records transactions chronologically, permanently and unalterably. While the technology underlies cryptocurrencies, both private and public sector entities are exploring the use of the technology in other settings. For example, banks may soon be using blockchain to gain financing-related efficiencies, while other industries are assessing the use of the technology to help manage supply chains. According to IBM, certain governments are becoming early adopters. Dubai, for example, has begun using blockchain to digitize the process of issuing business licenses and to track food safety and nutritional information. Against this backdrop, House Bill 2847 directs the Department of Administrative Services to study the use of blockchain technology and to make recommendations concerning its use in delivering state services.