

**HB 2786 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Business and Labor**

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**Prepared By:** Jan Nordlund, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 4/3

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Provides that district attorneys and deputy district attorneys qualify as police officers under Public Employees Retirement System (PERS).

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-3 Removes district attorneys from provisions of measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

There are two types of classifications for all primary Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) plans: General Service, and Police and Fire (P&F). Examples of qualified P&F positions include certain Department of Corrections employees, Oregon State Police officers, local government police officers, parole and probation officers, the state and deputy state fire marshal, and persons employed by cities, counties, or districts whose duties involve firefighting. All other qualifying positions are classified as General Service. Employees classified as P&F under PERS statutes can retire at an earlier age and have a higher benefit factor used in calculating their retirement benefits. These enhanced benefits raise the costs of benefits members earn while in that status by four to five percent of payroll. Those costs increase further if existing General Service members move into P&F status.

House Bill 2786 reclassifies as “police officers” under PERS statutes district attorneys and deputy district attorneys. The P&F benefits apply only for service performed by the employee on or after the measure's effective date. The measure applies to currently employed district attorneys and deputy district attorneys and to those hired after the effective date.