

SCR 33 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 4/10, 4/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Declares lung cancer as public health priority. Urges increased awareness of risk factors, screening options and treatment alternatives.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death in Oregon, the United States and the world. Approximately 150,000 lives are lost to lung cancer in the United States annually, which is more than breast, colorectal and prostate cancers combined. 50 percent more women die from lung cancer than breast cancer.

Lung cancer accounts for approximately 25 percent of all cancer-related death, and approximately one in 15 Americans will be diagnosed with lung cancer during their lifetime. More than 200,000 new cases of lung cancer will be diagnosed in 2019, most at an advanced stage due to the lack of standardized screening for early detection and a failure to recognize early symptoms. Early detection of lung cancer dramatically improves survival rates, but only 15 percent of lung cancers are diagnosed in early stages. Lung cancer research has been chronically underfunded in proportion to its public health impact, and trails far behind funding for research on other cancers.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 33 declares lung cancer a public health priority and urges all Oregonians to increase their awareness of the risk factors, screening options, and treatment alternatives for lung cancer and to offer compassion to those afflicted by this deadly disease.