

HB 2046 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 01/28/19

Action: Do pass and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference

Vote: 11-0-0-0

Yeas: 11 - Barker, Bynum, Gorsek, Greenlick, Lewis, McLane, Piluso, Post, Power, Sprenger, Williamson

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 1/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon State Police to maintain a patrol trooper staffing level of at least 15 troopers per 100,000 residents by January 1, 2030.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Historic levels of trooper staffing
- Prior funding streams linked to gas tax
- Rural law enforcement coverage
- Lack of 24 hour coverage in many counties

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon State Police (OSP) enforces traffic laws, investigates crimes, conducts forensic analysis, provides background checks and collects and distributes law enforcement data. OSP also regulates gaming, the handling of hazardous materials and fire codes, maintains the sex offender registry, and enforces fish, wildlife, and natural resource laws. Oregon currently has 454 total sworn Patrol Division officer positions to serve a population of over 4 million residents. In 2016, OSP had 8 troopers per 100,000 persons. At a high in the 1970's, there were nearly 30 troopers per 100,000 people.

House Bill 2046 requires OSP to bring patrol trooper staffing levels up to 15 troopers per 100,000 state residents by 2030.