

SB 1519 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Heard

Senate Committee On Human Services

Action Date: 02/05/20

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Findley, Gelser, Golden, Heard

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/3, 2/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits Department of Human Services (DHS) or the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) from considering specified misdemeanor convictions in conducting fitness determinations. Prohibits DHS or OHA from conducting a criminal records check more than once during an 18-month period on certain employees. Allows DHS or OHA to conduct a criminal records check more than once during an 18-month period if DHS or OHA determines it would be burdensome for a subject individual to wait for a new criminal records check. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Prohibits DHS or OHA from considering specified misdemeanor convictions in conducting fitness determinations.

BACKGROUND:

When evaluating the fitness of an individual as an employee, contractor, or volunteer, the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) are prohibited from considering a conviction for driving under the influence of intoxicants if it is a single conviction and over five years have passed since the conviction. DHS and OHA are also prohibited from conducting a criminal records check more than once every two-years on certain employees.

Senate Bill 1519-A prohibits DHS and OHA from considering a conviction for operating a boat while under the influence of intoxicants, as well as considering such convictions under a law in another jurisdiction, if it is a single conviction and over five years have passed since the conviction. The measure also allows DHS or OHA to conduct a criminal records check more than once during an 18-month period if DHS or OHA determines it would be burdensome for a subject individual to wait for a new criminal records check.