

## **HB 2214 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **House Committee On General Government**

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**Prepared By:** Caine Francis, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 1/28

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Limits compensation rates for special legal assistants or outside counsel hired by the Attorney General or state agency to no greater than 200 percent of the cost of the same services as provided by the Attorney General. Requires a public justification statement and opinion from Attorney General on reasonableness of cost to compensate above the limit.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

##### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-1 Clarifies agency of state government as defined in ORS 174.111. Clarifies agency in executive department as defined in ORS 174.112.

##### **BACKGROUND:**

Statute authorizes the Attorney General to appoint other assistants the Attorney General deems necessary to transact the business of the office. State agencies may employ their own counsel whenever the Attorney General concludes that it is inappropriate and contrary to the public interest for the office of the Attorney General to concurrently represent more than one public officer or agency in a particular matter or class of matters in circumstances which could create a conflict of interest on the part of the Attorney General.

House Bill 2214 sets limits on compensation for outside or special counsel hired by the Attorney General or a state agency to no greater than 200 per cent of the cost of the same services provided by the Attorney General without additional justification.