

SB 62 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 5/7, 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits current or former public officials from soliciting, receiving, or using public moneys from a public body to pay or make payments on a civil penalty imposed by the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGEC). Applies to civil penalties imposed by OGEC on or after January 1, 2022.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

Senate Vote: Ayes, 28; Excused, 2

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Personal liability for penalties
- Allows use of Legal Expense Trust Fund for penalties but not public moneys

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Government Ethics Commission may impose civil penalties on public officials who violate government ethics laws. Oregon law does not currently limit the source of the moneys used to pay those penalties. Senate Bill 62 prohibits current or former public officials from soliciting, receiving, or using public moneys from a public body to pay or make payments on those civil penalties.