

**HB 3396 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Rules**

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**Prepared By:** Jan Nordlund

**Meeting Dates:** 6/7

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Authorizes Public Employees Retirement Board, during emergency declared under ORS 401.165, to waive or alter statutory requirements that would result in a permanent loss if the following four conditions are met: declaration, and any extensions, is in effect for at least six months; emergency prevents public employees or employers from meeting the requirement; waiver or alteration is reasonable given the nature of emergency; and waiver or alteration expires no later than 30 days after the expiration of the emergency declaration and any extensions. Takes effect January 1, 2022.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

PERS provides retirement benefits for state agencies and approximately 900 units of local government. PERS is overseen by a five-member board that appoints an executive director to manage the agency's daily operations including the management of benefits for more than 378,000 active, inactive, and retired members and beneficiaries. Board members are appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate. The board has the authority to adopt rules for administering the system in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act.

ORS 401.165 provides the Governor with the authority to declare a state of emergency after determining that an emergency has occurred or is imminent.