

SB 211 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

Action Date: 02/04/21

Action: Do pass and requesting referral to Ways and Means.

Vote: 4-3-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Dembrow, Gelser, Manning Jr, Prozanski

Nays: 3 - Heard, Linthicum, Thatcher

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 1/27, 2/4

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 trooper staffing levels
- Oregon State Police troopers supplement public safety efforts in small jurisdictions
- Public safety concerns with lower staffing levels
- Currently, 14 of 36 Oregon counties have 24-hour patrol available
- Increased trooper staffing would result in 24-hour patrol availability in 35 of 36 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 approximately 450 total sworn Patrol Division officer positions to serve a population of over 4 million residents, or just over 11 officers per 100,000. 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.

Senate Bill 211 requires OSP to bring patrol trooper staffing levels up to 15 troopers per 100,000 state residents by 2030.