

HB 2026 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Owens

House Committee On Rules**Action Date:** 06/03/21**Action:** Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.)**Vote:** 5-2-0-0**Yeas:** 5 - Drazan, Holvey, Salinas, Smith Warner, Zika**Nays:** 2 - Bonham, Fahey**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst**Meeting Dates:** 5/21, 6/2, 6/3**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires public employers to give preference to residents of Malheur County for civil service position if majority of work will be performed within the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region. Requires public employer to appoint an otherwise qualified "resident applicant" to the position if the result of the resident applicant's examination, when combined with the preference, is equal to or higher than that of nonresident applicants. Establishes that violation of the provisions of this Act are an unlawful employment practice. Allows resident applicant aggrieved by a violation to file complaint with the Bureau of Labor and Industries. Requires resident applicant appointed to civil service position under preference to maintain residency in Malheur County for five consecutive years and to notify employer annually of county of primary residence. Makes failure to maintain residency during five-year period a voluntary termination of employment. Applies to any hiring process that begins on or after the effective date. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Social and community aspects of employment
- State residency requirement and employer verification process
- Employer reporting and voluntary termination being limited to five-year residency requirement
- Bordering state reciprocal actions
- Municipal preference point policies with residency requirements

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Changes definition of "resident applicant" to mean an applicant for a civil service position whose primary residence is in Malheur County instead of Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region. Removes requirement for public employer to provide a written explanation of the public employer's decision not to appoint resident applicant. Requires resident applicant appointed to civil service position under preference to maintain residency in Malheur County for five consecutive years and annually notify employer of county of primary residence. Makes failure to maintain residency during five-year period a voluntary termination of employment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2012 (2017) established the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Board (Board), a seven-member board appointed by the Governor to formulate and implement strategies and practices for strategic investment in workforce development and economic development in the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region (Region). The Region is defined as any territory within 20 miles of the Oregon border with Idaho that includes Ontario, Vale, and Nyssa; an area across the border from Weiser, Idaho; Brogan and Willow Creek; and an area southwest of Vale for a distance of ten miles.

HB 2026 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Bill 2026 B establishes a preference in public employment for residents of Malheur County when the majority of the work will be performed within the Region, conditioned on the resident applicant maintaining residency in Malheur County for at least five consecutive years.