A-Engrossed
Senate Bill 386

Ordered by the Senate April 19
Including Senate Amendments dated April 19

Sponsored by Senators DEMBROW, LIEBER (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Requires investigator, prior to interviewing child who witnessed or is victim of act under investigation, to notify child that child may request presence of parent or guardian during interview.

Directs county sheriffs, municipal police departments, university police departments and Oregon State Police to develop policies regarding parental notification of interviews of child witnesses and to submit report regarding policies developed to interim committees of Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2022.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to interviews of child witnesses; and prescribing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) No later than January 1, 2022, county sheriffs, municipal police departments, police departments established by a university under ORS 352.121 and 353.125 and the Oregon State Police shall develop comprehensive policies regarding parental notification of the interview of a child witness. A policy developed under this section may prioritize child safety, consistent with state and federal law.

(2) Each county sheriff, municipal police department and police department established by a university and the Oregon State Police shall submit a report in the manner provided in ORS 192.245 to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the judiciary no later than September 15, 2022, regarding the policies developed under this section.

(3) As used in this section, “child witness” means an unmarried person who is under 18 years of age and who is not the victim of, suspect in or related to the suspect in a child welfare, criminal or delinquency investigation.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2023.

SECTION 3. This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.