

HB 4102 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Gillian Fischer, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/1, 2/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes position of Tribal Relations Liaison within Department of State Police. Directs Board on Public Safety Standards and Training to ensure police officers and certified reserve officers are trained to investigate and report cases involving missing or murdered indigenous persons.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Removes provision requiring that all police officers and certified reserve officers be trained to investigate and report cases involving missing or murdered indigenous persons in this state. Requires, instead, that no later than October 31, 2022, the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training shall provide an operational plan for the provision of training for police officers concerning the investigation and reporting of cases involving missing or murdered indigenous persons in this state.

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, the Oregon State Legislature passed House Bill (HB) 2625 directing the Oregon State Police conduct a study and report to the legislature with recommendations on how to increase criminal justice and investigative resources towards cases of missing and murdered Native American women in this state. A multi-disciplinary Missing and Murdered Native American Women Work Group (Work Group) was established with representatives from the Oregon State Legislature, federal, state, local, and tribal organizations.

Included in the 2020 Work Group report was a recommendation to “strengthen and create partnerships between law enforcement and Native American communities and continue outreach to all Native American communities in Oregon on the issue of Missing and Murdered Native American Women.” The Work Group report also identified certain barriers to investigations of missing and murdered Native American Women including that “Native American communities in Oregon indicated there is a lack of trust between their communities and government, including law enforcement.” *Oregon State Police, Report on Missing and Murdered Native American Women, Listening and Understanding Tour HB 2625, 1-2, (September 2020).*

HB 4102 establishes the position of Tribal Relations Liaison within the Department of State Police to serve as the department contact person for all tribal governments and indigenous persons within this state. The measure also requires police officers and certified reserve officers be trained to investigate and report cases involving missing or murdered indigenous persons.