

## HB 2806 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

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**Prepared By:** Beverly Schoonover, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 4/25, 5/2

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes the governing body of a public body to meet in executive session to consider matters relating to the safety of the governing body, staff and volunteers of the public body, the security of public body facilities and meeting spaces, cybersecurity infrastructure, and responses to cybersecurity threats. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

*FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact*

*REVENUE: No revenue impact*

*HOUSE VOTE: 58-0-2*

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cybersecurity and security threats against public officials
- Safety planning, building security and threat assessments currently discussed in public meetings
- Definition of media in relation to the proposed measure

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

Oregon law provides that governing bodies of a public body must make meetings open to the public when a quorum of the body meets to discuss or deliberate on issues under the public body's purview. However, under some circumstances, a public body may meet in executive session, in which the general public is not allowed to attend, though typically the media is permitted to cover the proceedings. An executive session may be called during most types of meetings, and still requires providing proper and adequate public notice, which is the same as for regular meetings of the public body. Under executive session, the governing body may deliberate solely on matters for which the executive session was called, and no final action may be taken during an executive session.

Circumstances under which a governing body may meet in executive session include: employment, dismissal, discipline, or job performance of public officers, employees or staff; labor negotiations; records exempt from public disclosure; consultation with counsel; negotiation of real property transactions, trade, or public investments; matters of medical competency; or relating to security of sensitive sites.

House Bill 2806 A expands the list of topics that qualify for executive session to include safety of public body officials, staff, and facilities, as well as cybersecurity concerns.