

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **HB 2805 Relating to public meetings**

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: General Government Subcommittee  
Carrier: Representative Smith

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HB 2805 specifies that, for purposes of the Oregon Public Meetings Law, the use of serial written communication or the use of intermediaries to communicate, among members of a governing body, may constitute a quorum of the governing body, with some exceptions. The measure directs the Oregon Government Ethics Commission to provide or arrange for annual trainings and best practices on the Oregon Public Meetings Law. The measure requires members of certain governing bodies to attend or view these trainings at least once during their term in office and verify their attendance. The measure expands the commission's authority to include receiving reports of alleged violations of the public meetings law and investigating the reported violations. The measure takes effect 91 days after adjournment *sine die*.

The –1 amendment increases the expenditure limitation in the commission's budget by \$1,365,307 Other Funds in the 2023-25 biennium, which will enable the commission to hire 5 positions, equivalent to 3.75 FTE, conduct trainings, and expand its office space. This increase in limitation is not factored into the commission's current assessment rate, so the rate charged to state agencies and local governments will need to be increased through assessment adjustments, for the commission to utilize this increase in expenditure limitation.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends HB 2805 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.