

SB 951 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 3/22, 3/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds certified parole and probation officers employed by the Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision to persons qualifying as police officers for purposes of the Public Employees Retirement System.

REVENUE: Revenue impact issued

FISCAL: Has indeterminate fiscal impact; explanatory statement issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- PERS recommendation to limit "police officer" category to persons who qualify under Internal Revenue Service (IRS) guidelines
- Parole and probation officers are eligible under IRS guidelines
- Certified officers employed by Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision are the only parole and post-prison supervision officers currently excluded from police officer category for PERS

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Parole and probation officers qualify as police officers for Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) benefits if they are employed by the Department of Corrections, are transferred to county employment as adult parole and probation officers and classified as police officers by the county governing body, or are employed as juvenile parole and probation officers by the Oregon Youth Authority. Senate Bill 41 A (2021) modified the definition of parole and probation officers to include certified full-time officers employed by the Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision. Senate Bill 42 (2021) would have qualified members and officers of the Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision as police officers for purposes of PERS, but the bill remained in the Joint Ways and Means Committee upon adjournment sine die.

Senate Bill 951 would qualify certified parole and probation officers employed by the Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision as police officers for purposes of PERS.