LC 0058-EXPLAN (SJR 34, 2023) 1/26/24 (DFY/ps)

## THIS EXPLANATION HAS NOT BEEN REVIEWED OR APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL COMMITTEE.

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AMENDS CONSTITUTION: ESTABLISHES "INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SERVICE COMPENSATION COMMISSION" TO DETERMINE SALARIES FOR SPECIFIED OFFICIALS; ELIMINATES LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY TO SET SUCH SALARIES

Referred to the Electorate of Oregon by the Legislative Assembly to be voted on at the General Election, November 5, 2024.

1 **Explanation** 2 By the Joint Committee on Ballot Measure Titles and Explanatory Statements pursuant to 3 section 1, chapter 366, Oregon Laws 2023. 4 5 Under current law, legislators establish their own salaries, as well as the salaries 6 paid by the state to many other public officials, by statute. The salaries can be changed only 7 through legislation. 8 Ballot Measure amends the Oregon Constitution to establish a new body named 9 the Independent Public Service Compensation Commission to determine the salaries paid 10 by the state to the Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Treasurer, the Attorney 11 General, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries, judges of the Supreme 12 Court, judges of other courts under the administration of the judicial branch of state 13 government, state Senators, state Representatives and district attorneys. The

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commission's salary determinations would be final and would not be subject to review or modification by the Legislative Assembly, the Governor or any other official.

The measure prohibits officers and employees of the state, lobbyists and immediate family members of such officers, employees and lobbyists from serving on the Independent Public Service Compensation Commission. The measure allows the Legislative Assembly to establish additional classes of individuals who are ineligible for membership on the commission. Membership of the commission is to be established by law.

The measure provides that moneys sufficient to pay the salaries determined by the Independent Public Service Compensation Commission are automatically appropriated from the state's General Fund without the need for any action by the Legislative Assembly, the Governor or any other official. This is an exception to the general requirement of Article IX, section 4, of the Oregon Constitution, that an appropriation by law is necessary to expend moneys from the State Treasury.