

SB 1121 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure creates a Class B misdemeanor for unlawful disclosure of private information. A person commits the offense if they knowingly disclose another person’s personal information without consent, with the intent to stalk, harass, or injure that person, and the disclosure results in harm, harassment, or stalking. Defines “personal information” to include home address, contact information, Social Security number, photos of a child, and school information, among other data.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment adds an exemption to ORS 646A.572 for noncommercial educational broadcast stations that receive funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting or serve as national or state emergency alert entry points and distribute journalism content without cost to recipients.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law currently provides for civil remedies in cases involving the unauthorized disclosure of personal information with harmful intent. Under ORS 30.835, a person may bring a civil action if another individual knowingly discloses their personal information with intent to stalk, harass, or injure, and the disclosure results in harm. The statute permits recovery of damages and attorney fees if certain conditions are met, including lack of consent and resulting harassment, stalking, or injury. Senate Bill 1121 establishes a corresponding criminal offense: unlawful disclosure of private information. The measure defines the offense as knowingly disclosing another person's personal information without consent and with the intent to stalk, harass, or injure, where the disclosure results in harm or harassment. The offense is classified as a Class B misdemeanor. The bill also defines key terms including “personal information,” “harass,” and “stalk.” In addition, the measure amends ORS 646A.572 to expand exemptions to Oregon’s consumer data privacy law. The amendment adds a new exemption for noncommercial educational broadcast stations that receive funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting or serve as emergency alert entry points, when distributing journalism content at no cost.