

## **SB 1600 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Joint Committee On Conduct**

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**Prepared By:** Leslie Porter, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/12

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure modifies confidentiality and disclosure standards for records associated with investigations under Legislative Branch Personnel Rule 27: Safe, Respectful and Inclusive Workplace. It also eliminates the role of an offsite process counselor. It declares an emergency, effective on passage.

*Fiscal impact: A statement has not yet been issued.*

*Revenue impact: A statement has not yet been issued.*

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 208 (2026) amends Legislative Branch Personnel Rule 27 (LBPR 27): Safe, Respectful and Inclusive Workplace. This measure aligns related statute with those changes.

In 2019, the Legislative Assembly adopted House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 20 to make numerous changes to LBPR 27. Following discussions of a work group comprised of the four co-chairs of the Joint Committee on Conduct, partisan staff, and nonpartisan staff, the Legislative Assembly adopted HCR 221 during the 2020 Second Special Session, which revised LBPR 27 to address prohibited conduct, conduct reports, conduct complaints, investigations, remedies, and process. Changes to LBPR 27 by HCR 221 applied to conduct reports and conduct complaints, and the investigations of those reports and complaints, made on or after August 10, 2020.

In the 2021 session, HCR 28 updated LBPR 27 to conform with ORS 659A.375; allow the Legislative Equity Officer to hire an investigator as an employee of the Legislative Equity Office; allow voluntary interim safety measures; and clarify co-chairperson appointment and replacement procedures. The current version of LBPR 27 has been in effect since June 24, 2021.