

**HB 4137 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Judiciary**

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**Prepared By:** Amie Fender-Sosa, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/23, 2/25

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure modifies rules regarding the appearance in court of a defendant who has been issued a traffic ticket. If a defendant has transferred their interest in the vehicle that was cited, the measure allows the defendant, in lieu of a first appearance, to notify the court (within 30 days of the citation) of the transfer by presenting a certificate of innocence or in the manner the court provides. It directs the defendant to include a statement affirming specific relevant facts. Once the court determines that the person is exempt from liability, it requires the court to dismiss the citation.

*REVENUE: Has minimal revenue impact*

*FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact*

House Vote: Ayes, 40; remainder excused or absent

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Traffic violations (also known as traffic tickets) are offenses punishable by a fine, not by a term of imprisonment. Appearances for violations are governed by Oregon Revised Statutes 153.061; however, jurisdictions handle the process differently. House Bill 4137 A would codify a process for a person who receives a traffic violation citation and no longer owns the vehicle.