

SB 1576 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

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Meeting Dates: 2/24, 2/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure expands the authority of the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services to adopt standards that are more stringent than federal requirements for covered multifamily dwellings and other dwelling types for purposes of compliance with the Fair Housing Act. The measure requires subsidized rental developments receiving funding from Oregon Housing and Community Services to comply with Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It revises the definition of “accessible” as it applies to affordable and subsidized housing. The measure takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

Fiscal impact: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue impact: No revenue impact

Senate Vote: Ayes 27; Nays 1

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Availability of Type A and Type B accessible housing
- Oregon population trends that might impact need for accessible housing

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the federal Fair Housing Act establish accessibility requirements for housing and public accommodations. The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 requires certain multifamily housing to include accessible or adaptable features, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act imposes accessibility requirements on federally funded housing. These federal laws set baseline standards for accessibility in housing, including requirements for reasonable accommodations and a minimum number of accessible units in subsidized developments.