

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Telfer, Verger, Morrisette
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Jennifer Kellar, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates a Public Guardian and Conservator Task Force, comprised of at least 11 members, for the purpose of studying public guardian and conservator services in Oregon including need, models, efficacy, funding and legislative requirements. Directs task force to prepare recommendations and provide a cost assessment for implementation. Allows task force to accept donations of staff support, office space and equipment from advocacy groups in support of performance of its functions without appropriation. Declares an emergency, takes effect upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for public guardianship and conservatorship programs
- Work of task force to date
- Guardianship and conservatorship duties
- Program funding and demand for services

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The 1971 Legislative Assembly enacted ORS 125.700, an enabling statute allowing counties to establish public guardian and conservator programs. Two Oregon counties have implemented these programs. According to the Department of Human Services, there is a need in Oregon for adoption of professional standards for guardians and conservators and for coordination and oversight of statewide program standards. Currently, available public guardianship and conservator programs are insufficient to meet demand.