77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session **MEASURE: SB 269**
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY **CARRIER: Rep. Thatcher**
House Committee on Business & Labor

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:		Do Pass
Vote:		9 - 0 - 1
	Yeas:	Barton, Holvey, Kennemer, Matthews, Thatcher, Thompson, Weidner, Witt, Doherty
	Nays:	0
	Exc.:	Fagan
Prepared By:		Jan Nordlund, Administrator
Meeting Dates:		4/24, 5/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Specifies requirements for participation in Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) by administrative or academic employees of Oregon University System. Creates separate tier for employees contributing to ORP hired on or after July 1, 2014. Specifies contribution levels made by State Board of Higher Education for participating employee hired on or after July 1, 2014. Provides for limited employer match to employee contribution. Deletes language defining parameters of selection of investment and annuity providers. States that provisions do not effect collective bargaining agreements. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Recommendations of Optional Retirement Plan Review Committee
- Approximately 30 percent of Oregon University System (OUS) faculty choose ORP over PERS
- Whether amendment will be needed if any universities within OUS form independent boards
- Optional Plan meant to address needs of faculty who move frequently and want more control over investments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In 1995, the Oregon University System (OUS) sought and received authority to provide an Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) for OUS faculty and university employees. Pursuant to Senate Bill 242 (2011), OUS convened a committee to review the ORP. The committee included representatives of public university management and represented and unrepresented employees. Many of the committee's recommendations for updating provisions related to the ORP are contained in Senate Bill 269, including: removing restrictions on the selection of annuity or investment providers, revising eligibility requirements for employees who may not be employed a full year, and creating a new tier for participating employees.