Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session	MEASURE:	HB 2549		
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY	CARRIER:	Rep. Greenlick		
House Committee On Consumer Protection and Government Effectiveness				
Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact				
Revenue: No Revenue Impact				

Action Date:	02/12/15
Action:	Do Pass.
Meeting Dates:	02/12
<u>House</u>	
Yeas:	7 - Buehler, Fagan, Gallegos, Stark, Nearman, Rayfield, Holvey

Prepared By: Wendy Simons, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows state agency to decline to assign debt of estate to private collection agency if estate has closed. Applies to debts owed as of effective date. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

• Collection of state pension overpayments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon statutes direct state agencies to assign liquidated and delinquent accounts to either a private collection agency or the collections unit of the Department of Revenue within ninety days from the liquidation of the account. In the case of an account assigned to the Department of Revenue, the state agency must subsequently assign the account to a private collection agency if the Department of Revenue does not collect a payment within six months.

State agencies have the discretion to decline assignment of certain liquidated and delinquent accounts, such as student loans for a student currently attending school, amounts owed by a debtor who is in prison or a state hospital, or amounts less than \$100. House Bill 2549 adds debts owed by a closed estate to the list of accounts a state agency may decline to assign to a private collection agency.