

## **SJR 32 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Senate Committee On Rules**

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**Prepared By:** Cherie Stone, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/27

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to expand types of legislative measures requiring three-fifths majority vote in each chamber for passage. Refers proposed amendment to people for approval or rejection at next regular statewide general election.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Section 25, Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Oregon (Oregon Constitution) necessitates approval by a majority of all members of each legislative chamber for the passage of every bill or joint resolution considered by the Legislative Assembly, with certain exceptions. Currently, the Oregon Constitution stipulates that a three-fifths majority threshold in each legislative chamber is necessary for the passage of legislative measures that raise revenue. Similarly, the Oregon Constitution requires legislative measures that reduce criminal sentences, as established by initiative Measure 11 and as subsequently approved by a vote of the people, receive a two-thirds majority vote in each legislative chamber for passage.

Senate Joint Resolution 32 proposes an amendment to the Oregon Constitution that would expand the three-fifths majority threshold to include legislative measures that meet any of the following criteria: 1) establish or increase taxes; 2) modify or expand a tax base to produce revenue; 3) establish or increase fees or fines, or; 5) contain offsetting reductions in revenue. Lastly, SJR 32 refers the proposed amendment to the Oregon Constitution to the ballot at the next statewide general election.