

SB 696 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Changes insurance liability required for outdoor mass gathering events to match the limits of liability for local public bodies established by Oregon Tort Claims Act.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Outdoor mass gathering events are defined in ORS 433.735 as "an actual or reasonably anticipated assembly of more than 3,000 persons which continues or can reasonably be expected to continue for more than 24 consecutive hours but less than 120 hours within any three-month period and which is held primarily in open spaces and not in any permanent structure." Counties may otherwise define mass gatherings in ordinance. Counties issue permits for these mass gatherings and can require a certain level of insurance be carried by the organizers of the gathering. Currently, the amount of insurance required is capped at \$1 million. This cap was placed in 1993 and has not been raised since.

Senate Bill 696 links the insurance required for outdoor mass gathering events to the limits of liability specified for public bodies by the Oregon Tort Claims Act.