SB 560 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

Prepared By: Alexa Diaz Meeting Dates: 3/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows all cities to operate photo radar systems at its own cost.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

There are currently ten jurisdictions in Oregon authorized to operate photo radar at their own cost. Photo radar systems are used to detect speeds and capture information on the identify of the driver and the vehicle. The devices are only to be used on residential streets or in school zones, may be operated for up to four hours per day at one location, and are required to have a visible sign posted notifying drivers of photo radar speed enforcement. Participating cities are required to issue an evaluation report on outcomes of the photo radar system to the Legislative Assembly once each biennium.

A 2015 report issued from Oregon Department of Transportation shows that the cities using photo radar programs have had an overall reduction in traffic crashes during the period from 2005 to 2014, and that those jurisdictions have public acceptance of the photo radar systems. In Portland's 2017-2018 report, it identified 30 streets that have the highest number of fatalities or serious injuries from 2004-2013 and has designated ten of them as High Crash Corridors. There has been an overall decline in fatal crashes in Portland since photo radar systems have been used.

Senate Bill 560 allows all cities to operate photo radar systems.