

SB 7 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 5/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Lowers percent blood alcohol level needed to prove intoxication of vehicle driver or boat operator from .08 percent to .05 percent.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under current Oregon law, a person can be found guilty of driving while under the influence of intoxicants if the person drives a vehicle while that person 1) has a .08 percent or more of alcohol in their blood by weight, 2) is under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, other controlled substances, or inhalants, or 3) is under the influence of any combination of alcohol, cannabis, other controlled substances, or inhalants. The alcohol level in the person's blood can be determined by testing the individual's breath, blood, or urine. Similarly, a person may not operate, propel, or be in physical control of a boat while under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, or other controlled substances, which can be shown by evidence of a .08 percent blood alcohol level.

Senate Bill 7 lowers the percent blood alcohol level that can be used to show intoxication of a vehicle driver or boat operator from .08 percent to .05 percent.