

SB 424 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Frederick, Sen.
Prozanski

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 03/07/19

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Bentz, Fagan, Gelser, Linthicum, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Thatcher

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/12, 3/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires law enforcement agencies to establish a mental health wellness policy for addressing mental health wellness issues related to law enforcement officers of that agency. Defines law enforcement agency as a city or municipal police department, a county sheriff's office, the Oregon State Police, or a university police department.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Nationally recognized mental health wellness program for officers developed by Bend Police Department
- Statewide wellness programs
- Statistics on health impacts of stress from law enforcement positions
- Internal efforts within agencies to lessen mental health stigma

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Several studies, including the Buffalo Cardio-Metabolic Occupational Police Stress (BCOPS) study and work built upon its findings, show that law enforcement officers have higher stress levels than the general population and correspondingly higher levels of stress-related diseases.

Senate Bill 424 requires law enforcement agencies to establish mental health wellness policies relating to police work.