

**HB 2471 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Fagan

**Senate Committee On Judiciary**

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**Action Date:** 04/18/19

**Action:** Do pass the A-Eng bill.

**Vote:** 7-0-0-0

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

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Michael Lantz, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 4/18

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Prohibits cities from requiring payment before defendant can request court hearing or submit written explanation for parking violation.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Consequences of failing to pay fines
- Lack of consistent process to challenge ticket among cities
- Application of parking ordinances to nonmotor vehicles

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Under current Oregon law, cities may impose fines for violating city ordinances, including ordinances related to parking. If a city issues a ticket for a parking violation, the defendant may enter a plea of "guilty" or "no contest" and pay the fine, or enter a plea of "not guilty" and set a date for trial. In many jurisdictions, a defendant can also offer a written plea and explanation to the court, in an effort to have the charge dismissed or the fine reduced. Some cities in Oregon require that a bail amount be paid before the court can set a hearing or consider a written explanation.

House Bill 2471 A prohibits a court from requiring a defendant to pay the full fine amount or a bail amount before the defendant may request a hearing or submit a written explanation for parking violations.