

SB 1558 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On General Government and Emergency Preparedness

Action Date: 02/12/20

Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Boquist, Girod, Golden, Monnes Anderson, Riley

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: C. Ross, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Extends sunset on CourtCare pilot programs in Marion and Polk Counties from January 2, 2021, to January 2, 2022. Requires governing bodies to report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2020. Appropriates \$200,000 General Fund dollars to the Department of Administrative Services for distribution to counties. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Demand for, and success of, CourtCare

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

CourtCare was created in 2001 by Multnomah County Court to serve children accompanying parents or guardians to court. The program was designed to help prevent children from experiencing additional trauma and to curb disruptions during court proceedings. It provided free child care and court-related family services inside courthouses or within reasonable proximity. House Bill 3067 enacted in 2017, authorized Marion and Polk Counties to establish pilot programs modeled after CourtCare. The measure directed programs to serve as a clearinghouse for information and resource referrals, and required each county to report outcomes to the legislature. The measure also required CourtCare programs to be certified or registered by the Early Learning Division's Office of Child Care, and for staff to be enrolled in the Central Background Registry.

Senate Bill 1558 maintains CourtCare programs in Marion and Polk Counties an additional year, until January 2, 2022.