

## **SB 742 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Senate Committee On Housing and Development**

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**Meeting Dates:** 3/30, 4/6

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Restricts local governments from prohibiting certain alarm systems or battery-charged fences. Requires warning signs for battery-charged fences.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Competition in security fence industry
- Local government regulations
- Legal liability for security fence firms
- Other states with similar laws
- Health effects on humans and animals from contact with battery-charged fences
- International Electrotechnical Commission standards
- Involvement of cities and counties in policymaking process

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-1 Requires 30-foot intervals of warning signs rather than 60-foot intervals.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a global membership organization of electrotechnology companies that develops uniform technical standards for industry products, such as alarm systems and battery-charged fences. Governments and firms may choose to adopt IEC standards. In Oregon, cities and counties have authority to create their own codes for alarm systems and battery-charged fences.

Battery-charged fences connect with alarm systems to contact law enforcement and generate no more than 12 volts of direct current. Battery-charged fences are height-limited and must be surrounded by a nonelectric perimeter fence or wall.

Senate Bill 742 restricts local governments from prohibiting the installation or use of battery-charged fences. In addition, the measure prevents local governments from requiring alarm systems and battery-charged fences to meet standards that conflict with IEC standards. Local governments may still require a permit for the installation or use of a battery-charged fence. Warning signs must be posted at regular intervals for all battery-charged fences.