

SB 61 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 5/7, 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes the Oregon Government Ethics Commission to provide written commission advisory opinions, written staff advisory opinions, or oral and written staff advice on the application of executive session provisions of Oregon public meetings law. Grants specific safe harbor provisions to persons who act in good faith on commission opinions or staff advice.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

Senate Vote: Ayes, 28; Excused, 2

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Commission jurisdiction over executive session provisions in law

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Upon written request, or upon its own motion, the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGEC) provides written commission advisory opinions, written staff opinions, and oral and written staff advice on issues, whether actual or hypothetical, related to Oregon's government ethics laws. The OGEC is prevented from issuing penalties against a person for any good faith actions they take based on such opinions or advice (safe harbor provisions).

Senate Bill 61 adds executive session provisions to the topics for OGEC opinions or staff advice.