

## **SB 569 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Senate Committee On Human Services**

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**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/8, 3/8

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

Requires every place of public accommodation that provides a closed-captioned enabled television receiver in a public area to activate closed captioning. Specifies style requirements of captions. Requires closed captioning to be displayed in every place of public accommodation on at least 50 percent of the receivers within the area and places which sell television receivers as merchandise to activate closed captioning on at least one of the receivers on display. Requires staff be trained regarding closed captioning requirements. Directs the Bureau of Labor and Industries to develop training guidance which will be made available on their website and adopt rules to administer the closed captioning requirements. Establishes procedures for violation complaints. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Content displayed on TV screens in public spaces and displaying existing captions
- Adding captions when sound is on and when sound is muted
- Federal requirements for captioning
- History of cities passing legislation for captioning in public spaces
- Accessibility status in public spaces and drivers of process in Oregon

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

-1 Exempts the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, the Oregon Tax Court, the circuit courts and all administrative divisions of those courts from closed captioning requirements. Exempts places of public accommodations which have television screens smaller than 12 inches, or if the television is located in hospital rooms or rooms to rent. Removes permission to temporarily deactivate closed captioning at the request of a person with visual impairment.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Places of public accommodation include: places open to the public and owned or maintained by a public body; places or services offering to the public accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges of goods, services, lodgings, amusements, transportation; and services to the public that is provided by a public body. Oregon grants all persons the right to full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, and privileges of any place of public accommodation, without any distinction, discrimination, or restriction on account of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, marital status or age if the individual is of age (ORS 659A.403).

Senate Bill 569 would require that every place of public accommodation with a closed-captioned television receiver in a public area activate closed captioning on the receiver unless the receiver does not have the technical capability to display closed-captioned transmissions.