

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 5032 Public Records Advocate

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: General Government Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Gomberg

HB 5032 is the budget bill for Office of the Public Records Advocate.

The Office promotes government transparency through educating and training public employees and members of the public on the requirements and best practices under Oregon public records law. The Office also provides assistance and dispute resolution services upon request to public record requestors and public bodies. The 2017 Legislative Assembly established the role of the Public Records Advocate housed in the Department of Administrative Services. The 2021 Legislative Assembly required the Public Records Advocate to be an independent agency. This 2023-25 biennium budget is the first time the Office submitted a budget request as an independent agency.

The Subcommittee approved a total budget of \$900,101 Other Funds. The budget includes 2 positions (2.00 FTE). The Subcommittee approved the Legislative Fiscal Office recommendation that the Public Office Advocate work with the Department of Administrative Services Chief Financial Office and the Legislative Fiscal Office during the interim to develop proposed Key Performance Measures for the newly independent Office.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends HB 5032 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.