

SB 661 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 4/25, 5/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits lobbyist from serving as chairperson of interim committee or legislative work group or legislative task force staffed by nonpartisan staff of the legislative department. Allows public official who lobbies to be chairperson of interim committee, legislative work group, or legislative task force. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

Senate Vote: Ayes, 24; Nays, 2; Excused, 4

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Lobbyists retaining ability to serve on committees and task forces
- Situation raising the issue of a lobbyist serving as chairperson
- Various arrangements for legislative workgroups and making it clear that a paid lobbyist cannot be the chairperson

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 171.635 and ORS 171.640 allow the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to appoint individuals, other than members of the Legislative Assembly, to serve on interim committees, and to appoint a chairperson. Task force membership is delineated in enabling legislation and may specify who may serve as chairperson and how they are selected. Workgroups are often formed to work on proposed legislation but are not established through legislation.

Senate Bill 661 A prohibits a lobbyist, except a public official who lobbies, from serving as the chairperson of an interim committee, or of a legislative workgroup or legislative task force staffed by nonpartisan staff.