

SB 28 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Carrier:** Rep. Fahey**House Committee On Rules****Action Date:** 06/22/23**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed B-Eng.)**Vote:** 7-0-0-0**Yeas:** 7 - Breese-Iverson, Fahey, Kropf, Nosse, Scharf, Valderrama, Wallan**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst**Meeting Dates:** 6/22**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Creates joint legislative committee to prepare ballot title and explanatory statement for any amendment to the Oregon Constitution or Act referred to the ballot by the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly during 2023 regular session. Permits any elector who is unsatisfied with ballot title or explanatory statement to petition Supreme Court seeking different title or statement. Authorizes Supreme Court review of ballot title and explanatory statement and allows Court to modify title or statement or refer to Attorney General. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Companion to Senate Joint Resolution 34
- Expansion to all referrals by the Legislative Assembly during 2023 session

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

A referral is a resolution by a governing body to place a question on the ballot for its electors to decide. At the state level, the referral process gives voters the opportunity to decide on constitutional or statutory changes proposed by the Legislative Assembly. When the Legislative Assembly refers a measure to voters, it may exercise its authority to either write the ballot title and summary or provide an alternative process for drafting the ballot title and summary and establish the explanatory statement and joint argument in support committees. This is accomplished through the passage of a separate legislative measure specifying that content or process.

Senate Bill 28 B creates a joint legislative committee to prepare the ballot title and explanatory statement for any amendment to the Oregon Constitution or Act referred to the ballot by the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly during 2023 regular session.