



## HB 3111 Protects Public Employee and Official Privacy

**Problem:** The personal information of public employees and volunteer officials is subject to release in a public records request under certain circumstances. The release of this private information, including home address and personal telephone numbers, places employees and officials at risk of harassment or worse. Additionally non-PERS public pension retirees do not enjoy the same privacy protections PERS and OPSRP retirees have.

**Background:** ORS 192.355(3) exempts from public release, "...residential addresses, residential telephone numbers, personal cellular telephone numbers, personal electronic mail addresses..." of public employees and non-elected public officials that are contained in a personnel record. When that information is contained in non-personnel records it can be subject to release in a public records request jeopardizing employee safety and privacy.

The above language was passed into law in 2015 in [HB 3037](#) by wide margins in both chambers. The bill analysis, committee discussions and testimony make clear the legislative intent to protect public employees and officials from the release of their private information.

Further, the personal information of retirees enrolled in the Portland Fire and Police Disability and Retirement Fund can also be publicly available in a public records request. This is not the case for PERS and OPSRP members whose information is protected.

**Solution:** The fixes are simple; HB 3111 strikes the word "personnel" from ORS 192.355(3) which will protect private information in whatever type of record it is contained in and give all public sectors retirees the same privacy guarantees.

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