

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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Representative Tawna Sanchez, House Co-Chair

Senator Fred Girod, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Representative David Gomberg, House Co-Vice Chair
Representative Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

Amanda Beitel, Legislative Fiscal Officer
Tom MacDonald, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer (Budget)
Paul Siebert, Deputy Legislative Fiscal Officer (Audit/IT)

To: General Government Subcommittee

From: Paul Siebert, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: February 26, 2024

Subject: SB 1595 – Relating to protections from debt collection.
Work Session Recommendations

SB 1595 modifies amounts exempt from execution of a judgment or garnishment. Increases value of a vehicle exempt from garnishment from \$3,000 to \$10,000. Increases amount of disposable earnings exempt from garnishment of non-tax debt. Phases in disposable earnings amount exempt from garnishment beginning January 1, 2025, and specifies exempt amount as a portion of Oregon's standard minimum wage for wages payable on or after July 1, 2027. Increases amount of homestead exemption from \$40,000, or \$50,000 (two or more with interest in homestead) to \$150,000 or \$300,000 respectively. Exempts \$2,500 from financial account garnishment and indexes this exempt amount to inflation.

SB 1595 specifies that changes to garnishment exemptions made by measure do not apply if writ of garnishment includes debt arising from child support, spousal support, or restitution. Modifies actions deemed an unlawful collection practice. Increases the minimum amount of damages that may be awarded resulting from an unlawful collection practice. Defines terms. Updates forms in conformance with changes made by the measure. SB 1595 applies to writs of garnishment and execution issued on or after January 1, 2025, and notices of wage garnishment in effect on or after January 1, 2025.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the –A3 amendment.

MOTION: I move adoption of the –A3 amendment to SB 1595. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

LFO recommends that SB 1595, as amended by the –A3 amendment, be moved to the Ways and Means Full Committee.

MOTION: I move SB 1595, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____