

HB 2928 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 1/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure removes the prohibition in statute on offering gifts with an aggregate value of more than \$50 per calendar year to a public official, candidate, or relative or member of the household of a public official or candidate.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2007, the Legislative Assembly passed two major ethics reform bills. One of those bills, [Senate Bill 10 \(2007\)](#), established that a public official, candidate for office, or relative or member of the household of a public official or candidate may not solicit or receive gifts of more than \$50 during a calendar year from single source with a legislative or administrative interest. It also prohibited a person with a legislative or administrative interest from offering a public official, candidate for office, or a relative or member of the household any gift or gifts with an aggregate value of more than \$50.

ORS 244.020 (2023) defines “gift” as something of economic value that is given to a public official, a candidate, or a relative or member of the household that is not equally extended to nonpublic officials or candidates. A “legislative or administrative interest” means an economic interest, different from the public, in a matter subject to a decision or vote of the public official acting in their official capacity.

In 2009, the Oregon Supreme Court, in *Vannatta v. Oregon Government Ethics Commission*, 347 Or 449 (2009), held that the restrictions on the offering of gifts in ORS 244.025 violate Section 8, Article I of the Constitution of the State of Oregon and are void.