

HB 2668 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Abby Shearer, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/20, 3/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

This measure requires a private search party to disclose to an immediate family member, verbally and in writing, before engaging in search efforts that they are not acting as an agent of a public body and to specify their involvement if they intend to charge a fee, request donations, or derive profit from any production made in connection with the party's services. The measure also requires a private search party to notify the county sheriff with jurisdiction over where the search will take place 72 hours in advance and provide information such as the missing person's identity and the anticipated timeframe of the search. Authorizes counties to impose civil penalties for noncompliance.

Fiscal: No impact

Revenue: Minimal impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Scope of individuals or groups affected by the bill
- Potential impact on private individuals
- Consideration of whether the bill should be more narrowly tailored

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 The amendment expands the definition of "private search party" to include any person that intends to charge a fee, request donations, or profit from a production related to their search efforts. It defines "production" as any photograph, motion picture, video, or audio recording. The amendment also allows a law enforcement agency of any public body to authorize a private search party to begin search efforts before the 72-hour notification requirement.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law does not currently address private search efforts. House Bill 2668 would define the term private search party and other terms relevant to regulating those search efforts that are not attached to a public body with responsibility for search and rescue.