

Open Government Impact Statement

83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

Measure: SB 16 Only impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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SUMMARY

Digest: The Act says a state agency's public records about being in favor of or against a bill must be made public if the agency has also urged to pass or not pass the bill. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.5).

Requires, if an executive department agency testifies in support of or opposition to a proposed measure or amendment to the measure, the agency to disclose all public records in the agency's custody that relate to the agency's decision to support or oppose the measure or amendment, notwithstanding any other law providing an exemption from the required disclosure. Provides that the law practitioner-client privilege may not serve as a basis for the agency's refusal to disclose the records.

OPEN GOVERNMENT IMPACT

Legislative Counsel has not adopted standards for drafting measures that establish exemptions from disclosure of public records.

This measure requires an agency of the executive department to disclose, upon request, any public record in the agency's custody that is related to the agency's decision to support or oppose a proposed measure or amendment being considered by the Legislative Assembly unless the disclosure is prohibited by federal law or regulation. This measure specifically states that law practitioner-client privilege is not a basis to refuse to disclose a record.

If those public records that are currently not subject to public disclosure are instead subject to mandatory disclosure under public records law, the public would gain information, including communications between lawyers and clients, relating to how an agency came to a decision to oppose or support a proposed measure or amendment being considered by the Legislative Assembly.