

SB 959 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Carrier:** Rep. Kropf**House Committee On Judiciary****Action Date:** 04/30/25**Action:** Do Pass.**Vote:** 7-1-0-0**Yeas:** 7 - Andersen, Chaichi, Chotzen, Kropf, Lewis, Mannix, Wallan**Nays:** 1 - Tran**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** Has minimal revenue impact**Prepared By:** Kris Kolta, LPRO Analyst**Meeting Dates:** 4/22, 4/30**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

This measure categorizes a signal jammer (also known as a wifi jammer) that can interfere with an alarm system as a burglary tool and makes it a crime to possess a signal jammer with the intent to break into a premises or commit theft. This measure also exempts alarm systems installers from the requirement to supply replacement parts or tools to an owner or third-party service provider.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Explanation and increased use of signal/wifi jammers
- Federal ban on signal jammers
- Senate Bill 1596 (2024), right-to-repair law intent and possible application of that law to alarm systems
- Potential cost to consumers of exempting alarm systems from right-to-repair law

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 164.235 makes it a crime to possess certain burglary tools and devices with the intent to break into a premises or steal. Such tools and devices currently include acetylene torches, electric arcs, burning bars, thermal lances, oxygen lances, or other similar devices capable of burning through steel, concrete, or other solid material, nitroglycerine, dynamite, gunpowder, or any other explosive.

Senate Bill 1596 (2024), Section 1(1) generally requires original equipment manufacturers to make available the documentation, tool, part, or other device for the purpose of repairing consumer electronic equipment. SB 1596, Section 1(2) created exceptions to the manufacturer requirement, and this measure adds an exception for alarm systems.