

HB 2668 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Prozanski

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 05/14/25

Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 6-0-0-0

Yeas: 6 - Broadman, Gelser Blouin, Manning Jr, McLane, Prozanski, Thatcher

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

Prepared By: Abby Shearer, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/7, 5/14

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 of engaging in search efforts and provide information such as the missing person's identity and the anticipated timeframe of the search unless approved by the county sheriff. Finally, the measure defines relevant terms and authorizes counties to impose civil penalties for noncompliance.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Contract law as a protection for families from paying private search parties without prior consent
- Consent from families regarding third party production
- Live stream protection vs. pre-recording protection

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law does not currently address private search efforts. House Bill 2668 A 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.