SB 890 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 05/15/25
Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 7-0-1-0

Yeas: 7 - Andersen, Chaichi, Chotzen, Kropf, Lewis, Tran, Wallan

Exc: 1 - Mannix
Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 5/7, 5/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure extends the deadline by five years for the Oregon Sunshine Committee to complete its review of all existing exemptions to public records laws. It also changes the recipient and reviewing committee of the Oregon Sunshine Committee's reports, to go to the committees or interim committees on Judiciary instead of the Public Records Subcommittee of the Legislative Counsel Committee.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Committee membership composition
- Oregon Sunshine Committee has reviewed 250 of 650 exemptions
- Public Records Subcommittee of the Committee on Legislative Counsel does not meet regularly

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2101 (2017) created the Oregon Sunshine Committee (OSC) to do the following:

- Review all existing exemptions to public records requests for public records by December 21, 2026;
- Review, upon request, any administrative rules that impact disclosure;
- Identify inefficiencies or inconsistencies that impede transparency in public records and government; and
- Make recommendations on changes to existing law and policy to enhance transparency and fulfillment of public records requests.

The OSC must make a report in every even-numbered year to the Public Records Subcommittee of the Legislative Counsel Committee. The subcommittee has no regular meeting schedule and meets infrequently. Senate Bill 890 redirects the OSC's biennial reporting duties to the committees or interim committees on judiciary and extends the OSC's time to review public records exemptions.

Carrier: Rep. Chaichi