

## **SB 1579 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Senate Committee On Judiciary**

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**Prepared By:** Tisha Pascone, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/9, 2/11, 2/16

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure elevates the offense severity for making a false report of child abuse from a Class A violation to a Class B misdemeanor. It makes the crime a Class A misdemeanor if the person has one prior conviction for the offense, and a Class C felony if the person has two or more prior convictions for the offense. The measure takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**FISCAL:** May have impact, but no statement yet issued.

**REVENUE:** May have impact, but no statement yet issued.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Under ORS 419B.016, a person commits the offense of making a false report of child abuse if, with the intent to influence a custody, parenting time, visitation or child support decision, the person: (a) makes a false report of child abuse to the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency, knowing that the report is false; or (b) with the intent that a public or private official make a report of child abuse to the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency, makes a false report of child abuse to the public or private official, knowing that the report is false. Currently, making a false report of child abuse is a Class A violation. Senate Bill 1579 is substantially similar to SB 385A (2025) (not enacted) but it adds a definition of child abuse for the offense, and it specifies that a prior conviction counts toward penalty elevations if the conviction occurred before, on or after the measure's effective date.