

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote: 4 - 1 - 0
Yeas: Avakian, Gordly, Monroe, Prozanski
Nays: Beyer
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Anna Braun, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 3/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires all cigarettes sold or distributed in Oregon to be “fire-safe”, that is, have a reduced ignition propensity as determined by the State Fire Marshal. Authorizes rulemaking and enforcement by the State Fire Marshal. Authorizes civil penalties. Establishes the Cigarette Fire Safety Fund from penalties. Authorizes Attorney General enforcement. Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: According to the State Fire Marshal, cigarettes are a leading cause of structural fires in Oregon, as well as for many forest and brush fires. Oregon was the first state in the country to consider establishing safety standards for cigarettes when the 1979 Legislature passed a memorial asking the United States Congress to create and enforce safety standards. In 2004, New York enacted legislation requiring cigarettes to meet a nationally recognized standard. Since then, seven other states and Canada have enacted similar laws.