REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Avakian, Beyer, Gordly, Monroe
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Prozanski
Prepared By:	Anna Braun, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows agreement between employer and employee in the language employer principally uses to communicate with employee to authorize employee to be paid through direct deposit, automated teller machine, payroll card or other means of electronic transfer if employee can withdraw entire amount with no penalty, choose another method of payment, or revoke the agreement within 30 days of giving notice. Allows notice of revocation for seasonal farm or cannery workers to be done verbally or in writing and the agreement must be revoked within 10 days of notice. Authorizes civil penalty.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:
•   Provisions of the measure.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Adds requirement that the agreement needs to be in the language the employer principally uses to communication with employee. Allows seasonal farmworkers and cannery workers to give notice of revocation orally or in writing and requires revocation to be within ten days.

BACKGROUND: Oregon law currently does not recognize the usage of paying workers via electronic tools such as debit cards. HB 2256-B gives employers the means to provide alternative methods of paying an employee's wages if both agree to the arrangement. The bill prohibits a fee being assessed on the card and allows the employee to be able to withdraw the full amount of wages or choose to use another means of receiving their wages, without cost to the employee.

The Federal Reserve Board recently estimated that more than 2.2 million workers nationwide have chosen to receive their wages via a pay card, more than doubling the number of pay cards in circulation since 2003. A handful of states have chosen to allow the usage of pay cards, either through regulatory or legislative actions.