

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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|----------------|--|
| Action: | Do Pass |
| Vote: | 5 - 0 - 0 |
| Yeas: | Beyer, Kruse, Prozanski, Walker, Burdick |
| Nays: | 0 |
| Exc.: | 0 |
| Prepared By: | Darian Stanford, Counsel |
| Meeting Dates: | 5/8 |

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Adds exception to crime of failing to report precursor substance transaction for transactions involving sale or transfer of isomers of precursor substances except for optical isomers.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Nature of optical isomers
- Success of meth lab reduction efforts by Oregon Legislature

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 475.940-475.980 discuss "precursor substances" and related offenses. Generally, precursor substances refer to chemicals needed to manufacture illegal drugs. ORS 475.940 identifies over forty specific "precursor substances," including pseudoephedrine, red phosphorous, and some forms of iodine. ORS 475.950 makes the failure to report certain "precursor substance" transactions in the proper manner (to the Oregon State Police) a Class A misdemeanor.

There is presently a list of eight exceptions to this reporting requirement in ORS 475.950(2). HB 2782 adds a ninth exception for persons who sell or transfer "an isomer of a precursor substance, unless it is an optical isomer." Generally, an "isomer" refers to a chemical species with the same number and types of atoms as another chemical species, but possessing different properties. An optical isomer refers to chemical species that are mirror images of one another. Federal statutes have already addressed the isomer/optical isomer issue. This class of transaction presents no need for reporting.

5/9/2007 10:17:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.