

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
<b>Vote:</b>	3 - 0 - 2
<b>Yeas:</b>	Atkinson, Prozanski, Avakian
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Bates, Beyer
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Sue Marshall, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	5/15

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes the Department of Agriculture to receive and distribute grant funds for any purpose related to the laws administered or enforced by the department. Revises language related to contracts.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Lack of clear authority for the department to receive and distribute grant funds

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The Department of Agriculture currently lacks clear statutory authority to enter into contracts and agreements and to receive and distribute grant funds. In a recent circumstance, this led to another agency fulfilling this role for the department. House Bill 3494-A amends ORS 561.240 to clarify the department's authority and allows the department to enter into contracts, agreements, receive or issue grants with a variety of entities.