

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 3 - 2 - 0

Yeas: Bates, Prozanski, Avakian

Nays: Atkinson

Exc.: Beyer

Prepared By: Sue Marshall, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/19, 4/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows freestanding hospice facilities in existing dwellings and one accessory building to locate on land zoned for exclusive farm use provided they do not exceed 10,000 square feet of total floor area and twelve patient beds if the existing dwelling qualifies for alteration, restoration or replacement.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Difficulty in locating suitable sites for hospice facilities
- Whether hospice facilities fall within current exceptions to exclusive farm use (EFU) zoning
- Whether EFU zone with active farming would be compatible with hospice care facility
- Protection of farmland and high number of land use exceptions allowed
- Whether the 'anywhere outside an urban growth boundary' exception is too broad

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces original measure.

BACKGROUND: Hospice services provide care to terminally ill patients who are no longer seeking curative treatments. Oregon has the lowest utilization of inpatient hospice care in the country. Proponents attribute this under-utilization to the lack of availability of hospice houses and the difficulty under current land use regulations in locating suitable sites within an urban growth boundary.