

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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Action: Do Pass

Vote: 9 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Bruun, Dembrow, Garrett, Harker, Kennemer, Kotek, Maurer, Thompson, Greenlick

Nays: 0

Exc.: Cannon

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/20

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Eliminates the statutory cap on fees (\$50 per tests other than newborn screening tests; and \$30 per specimen for newborn screening tests) charged for certain tests performed by state public health laboratory. Requires Department of Administrative Services to approve fee prior to increase.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Laboratory samples submitted by local health departments
- Increasing requests for specialized tests (rabies, botulism, anthrax, etc.)
- Samples for reference testing
- Current fee caps limits the laboratory's ability to offer new tests
- Process for establishing fees remains the same
- Fees are not a revenue generating mechanism for the laboratory

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

**BACKGROUND:** Medical technology and new test methods are being developed for diseases of public health significance, however they are often expensive. According to the Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) the current maximum fee cap does not allow the laboratory to recover the full test costs and prevents the OSPHL from offering new tests that are requested by clients. Additionally, the OSPHL states that specialized reference tests (that are being requested more often) have to be sent out of state, which has a higher cost to the state and are often not recoverable.