

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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**Action:** Do Pass

**Vote:** 10 - 0 - 0

**Yeas:** Barton, Cameron, Edwards C., Esquivel, Holvey, Kennemer, Matthews, Thatcher, Witt, Schaufler

**Nays:** 0

**Exc.:** 0

**Prepared By:** Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 5/6

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes the Oregon Liquor Control Commission to authorize the import of distilled liquor, ordered by and en route to the commission, by certificate of approval. Authorizes the commission to establish qualifications for the certificate of approval by administrative rule.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Rationale behind including grain and ethyl alcohol in the measure's provisions
- Current penalties for violating statutes or rules relating to importing distilled spirits

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

**BACKGROUND:** Anyone who manufactures, distributes, or sells distilled spirits in Oregon must be licensed by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC). Current statute prohibits manufacturers or wholesalers from providing either money or other items of value to liquor retailers, due to the potential for exerting undue influence over retailers' sales practices. The commission has the authority, either through licensure or a certificate of authority, to enforce this statute for in-state distilled spirits, beer, and wine manufacturers, and out-of-state beer and wine manufacturers. However, this authority is not extended to out-of-state distilled spirit manufacturers.

SB 135-A allows the OLCC to issue certificates of approval for importing distilled spirits, and adds out-of-state distilled spirits manufacturers to the list of entities required to obtain a certificate of approval.