

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Beyer, Gilliam, Krieger, Roblan, Schaufler, VanOrman, Wingard, Clem
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Beth Patrino, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to enter into contracts with foreign entities for agricultural and horticultural products and processes, including inspection and testing.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need to ensure compliance with state and federal standards
- Importance of promoting local products

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, the ODA's Export Service Center (ESC) assists companies with pre-export analysis and certification of food products. The ESC is a certified customs laboratory for United States foods shipped to Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. In addition, 17 other countries accept ESC analytic results in lieu of testing at the destination port. The ESC offers consultative and analytic services in four primary program areas: GMO (genetically modified organism) detection, pesticide residue, food chemistry, and microbiology. According to the agency, Senate Bill 185 provides clear authority for the ODA to contract for inspecting and testing imported and exported agricultural products. These monitoring tools determine levels of compliance with federal and state standards established for food safety and protection commodities, plants, ingredients, and manufactured food products, resulting in increased acceptance of products exported from Oregon and imported into Oregon.