REVENUE: No revenue impact

 FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

 Action:
 Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

 Vote:
 10 - 0 - 0

 Yeas:
 Boone, Dembrow, Doherty, Frederick, Freeman, Huffman, Maurer, Olson, VanOrman, Tomei

 Nays:
 0

 Exc.:
 0

 Prepared By:
 Rick Berkobien, Administrator

 Meeting Dates:
 2/3, 2/5

MEASURE:

CARRIER:

HB 3623 A

Rep. Barton

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows nonprofit organization to supply to Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) materials regarding human trafficking. Prohibits organization from charging OLCC for materials. Outlines form of materials and limits information to human trafficking only. Requires OLCC, if materials are supplied by organization, to include copy of materials with each license renewal notice commission sends to on-premises sales, off-premises sales, or brewery-public house licensees. Allows OLCC to determine if materials are offensive or inappropriate and, if so, not include them in mailing. Establishes that number of copies that OLCC sends not exceed number of copies supplied by organization. Applies to license renewals on or after effective date of Act. Repeals Act on January 2, 2010. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Reason for amendments
- Organizations that address human trafficking problems
- Optimal places to place warning signs about human trafficking, and phone number to report problems

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Allows OLCC to determine if materials are offensive or inappropriate and, if so, not include them in mailing.

BACKGROUND: According to a United States Department of State Trafficking in Persons report issued in 2006, the United States is a transit and destination country for trafficking in persons. It is estimated that 14,500 to 17,500 people, primarily women and children, are trafficked to the United States annually. Experts on this issue note that poverty and lack of economic opportunity make women and children potential victims of traffickers associated with international criminal organizations. They may also be vulnerable to false promises of job opportunities in other countries. Many of those who accept offers from what appear to be legitimate sources find themselves in circumstances where their documents are destroyed, they or their families are threatened with harm, or they are bonded by a debt that they likely cannot repay.

While women and children are particularly vulnerable to trafficking for the sex trade, human trafficking is not limited to sexual exploitation. It also includes persons who are trafficked into 'forced' marriages or into bonded labor markets, such as sweat shops, agricultural plantations, or domestic service.

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) was created in 1933. Oregon is a control state with the exclusive right to sell packaged distilled spirits, which are dispersed statewide from a distribution center in Portland and sold in 242 retail liquor stores operated by contracted agents. The OLCC licenses qualified people and businesses to sell and serve alcoholic beverages. OLCC issues licenses to private businesses such as grocery stores to sell packaged beer and wine, and restaurants, bars and taverns to sell beer, wine and distilled spirits by the glass.