

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 7 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Boone, Esquivel, Johnson, Schaufler, Sprenger, Clem, Jenson

Nays: 0

Exc.: Cowan

Prepared By: Liz Puskar, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/14, 2/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Expands coverage of laws applicable to seed production or purchase contracts to include additional forms of contract and additional kinds and varieties of seeds, and allows Director of Agriculture to adopt additional rules further expanding application of such laws. Expands definition of “wholesaler” and makes wholesalers subject to state licensing requirements. Requires Director of Agriculture to establish content and labeling requirements for flower seeds.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need to increase the types of seed contracts that are enforceable by the Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Frequency of late payments to seed growers has increased with economic downturn

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 576.727, sometimes referred to as the “slow pay/no pay” statute, was established during the 2001 Legislative Session with the intent of addressing delayed contract payments by grass seed dealers to Oregon grass seed growers.