

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER: Sen. Shields

Senate Committee on General Government, Consumer and Small Business Protection

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: No fiscal impact**

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	4 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Bonamici, Boquist, Monroe, Shields
Nays:	George
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Patrick Brennan, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/27, 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Prohibits floral order facilitators from receiving or charging consideration for individual orders, with certain exceptions. Requires floral order facilitators to pay delivery charges and other amounts to direct providers of floral or plant arrangements or related services within a reasonable time period. Designates violations to be an unlawful trade practice. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact of Internet ordering on local florists
- Interstate commerce

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Flowers by wire is the most common way of sending flowers across the country or around the world. Traditionally, when someone wanted to send flowers to a loved one in another city, a hometown florist would help by contacting a trusted florist in the distant town. Today, the vast majority of flowers by wire orders are transferred between florists on proprietary data networks to ensure the speed, accuracy, and security of transmission.

House Bill 2212-A restricts the amount of commission a floral order facilitator is allowed to charge for receiving an order or transferring an order to another facilitator or the direct floral order provider.