

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 4 - 0 - 2
Yeas: Burdick, Edwards, Starr, Beyer
Nays: 0
Exc.: Atkinson, Girod
Prepared By: Richard Berger, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Excludes officiating services at amateur sporting events from the definition of “employment” for purposes of unemployment insurance taxation. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Unique nature of officiating work
- Examples of organizations affected by the measure
- Amendment considered that would exclude taxicab drivers from the definition of “employment”

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon statute requires that the majority of workers are subject to minimum wage standards, mandatory workers’ compensation coverage, and unemployment compensation taxation requirements, unless explicitly exempted.

House Bill 2347 clarifies that individuals who perform officiating services (such as a referee) for recreational, interscholastic, or intercollegiate sporting events or contests, in which the participants are not professional athletes and contestants or are not remunerated for their participation, are exempt from unemployment insurance statute. The measure does not apply to officiating services performed for a non-profit organization, the state or any of its political subdivisions, or a tribe.