

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Beyer
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Edwards

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 21 – 1 – 3

House

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Garrard, Komp, McLane, Nathanson, Read, Richardson, G. Smith, Whisnant

Nays: Freeman

Exc: Nolan, Thatcher

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Girod, Johnson, Monroe, Thomsen, Verger, Whitsett, Winters

Nays:

Exc: Nelson

Prepared By: Paul Siebert, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: February 22, 2012

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Department of Agriculture (Department) to adopt rules establishing license fee schedules based upon annual gross dollar volume of sales and services for certain food-related establishments. Stipulates Department may not adopt rule to establish license fee that is more than three percent higher than fee charged during preceding year for establishments that maintain same volume of sales and services. Prohibits fees from changing more frequently than once each year. Stipulates Department may not adopt rule establishing license fee that is higher than fee charged for license year that began July 1, 2018. Establishes that license fees take effect no later than July 1, 2013. Sunsets provisions related to three percent limit on fee increase on January 2, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current fees must be adopted in rule under the bill
- What will agencies do if inflation increases rapidly

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The mission of the Department's Food Safety Division (Division) is to prevent the spread of foodborne illness. The Division monitors Oregon's food industry, enforces state sanitation laws, and works to make sure that the consumer gets food that is not contaminated, mislabeled, misrepresented or changed in any way that would impair safety, wholesomeness or purity. Food safety specialists routinely inspect food establishments throughout Oregon and work directly with the facilities to help ensure proper food handling, storage and processing practices are followed. The Division inspects and licenses all food outlets in Oregon, except restaurants; in total, 10,000 outlets are covered.