

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

House Committee on Health Care

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Tyler Larson, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires certain information relating to bedbug infestations to be held confidentially by public health authorities and exempts information from disclosure under public records law. Authorizes disclosure of information to specified public agencies. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: (-1 amendment) Authorizes compilation and publication of bedbug data in statistical reports.

BACKGROUND: Bedbugs are parasitic insects that feed on blood. They are transported easily in clothing, luggage and on pets, and multiply quickly. Bites from bedbugs are itchy and irritating and can become infected. Bedbug infestations in New York City reached epidemic levels in 2007 and have continued to spread throughout the country. Proponents assert the bill will encourage reporting of bedbug infestations by allowing pest control operators and others to submit data to public health officials without concern the information may become public. This data can be used by public health officials to more effectively address the human and business impact of bedbugs.

2/6/2013 11:42:00 AM *

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.