

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Clem, Esquivel, Krieger, McKeown, Reardon, Thompson, Unger, Whitsett, Witt
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Beth Patrino, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Repeals laws regarding inspection of prune packers and grading of prunes.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Growers may use voluntary grading program
- State program rarely used

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The statutes governing inspection of prunes was enacted over 50 years ago when the prune industry was growing in Oregon along with the demand for grading and classification of dried prunes. Standards for grading of dried prunes are now written into grower contracts making the statutes obsolete. House Bill 2246 repeals statutes directing the Oregon Department of Agriculture to establish official grades and standards for dried prunes and to collect fees for such grading and inspections.