

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 9 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Barton, Cameron, Garrett, Hicks, Krieger, Olson, Tomei, Williamson, Barker

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Mike Schmidt, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Adds to list of crimes that can be diverted, unlawfully possessing prescription drug under ORS 689.527(6).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 2554 adds possession of prescription drugs to the list of crimes in ORS 475.245 that are eligible for dismissal following completion of certain conditions. This “diversion” statute gives courts and district attorneys flexibility in handling charges where all parties agree that the person being charged would benefit from completing conditions such as treatment, rather than having a conviction on his or her record. If the defendant does not successfully complete the conditions of the diversion, a guilty finding will be entered, and the case would proceed as it normally would after a guilty finding.