

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
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:	2/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Makes producer responsible for payment if first purchaser of grain is outside Oregon, is federal or other governmental agency or if producer performs handling or processing functions for first purchaser. Establishes civil penalty for transmittal delay or failure to relinquish assessment money to Oregon Wheat Commission (Commission). Specifies permissible types of accounts and investments for deposit of Commission monies. Defines “grain” and “producer” for purposes of Commission statutes. Requires Commission to elect secretary-treasurer and to ensure member is holding office no later than 30 days after effective date of Act; requires chair, vice-chair and secretary-treasurer be elected from members. Authorizes Commission to levy assessments.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- 2011 bill disbanded Oregon Grain Commission and moved responsibilities to Oregon Wheat Commission
- Out-of-state purchasers typically cooperate by collecting and forwarding required assessments
- Civil penalty provision not included in 2011 changes

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Wheat Commission is a producer funded program whose mission is to improve the profitability of wheat growers through marketing, research and grower education. In 2011, Senate Bill 946 abolished the Oregon Grains Commission and transferred records and property to the Oregon Wheat Commission. At that time, some references were incorrectly removed. House Bill 2616 clarifies that a producer is responsible for assessment payments if the purchaser is out-of- state and makes other changes to the Wheat Commission statutes.