

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Baertschiger, Burdick, Close, Prozanski, Roblan

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Racquel Rancier, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/12, 3/21, 3/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies basis of Oregon Sheep Commission (Commission) assessment. Requires Oregon Sheep Commission to levy assessment of no less than 50 cents per head and not more than one dollar per head on sheep produced and sold in state. Prohibits assessment increase of more than 10 cents in 12 month period.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Primary product sold by producers has shifted from wool to meat
- Sale of wool is sporadic and unstable leading to fluctuation in Commission's income which makes budgeting and planning difficult
- Assessment on sheep sold would be more stable source of revenue for Sheep Commission
- New assessment is consistent with national checkoff program

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Sets minimum assessment at 50 cents per head. Prohibits commission from increasing assessment by more than 10 cents in any 12 month period.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Sheep Commission funds projects to promote Oregon's sheep industry. The Commission supports research that benefits the production, processing, and marketing of Oregon lamb and wool products. To fund these projects, the Commission places an assessment on the sale of wool in the grease basis at .03 cents per pound for wool sold commercially. Senate Bill 719 replaces the assessment on the sale of wool with an assessment on sheep produced and sold in the state.