

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	8 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Esquivel, Krieger, McKeown, Reardon, Thompson, Unger, Whitsett, Witt
Nays:	Clem
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Beth Patrino, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/19, 4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Prohibits raising canola in Willamette Valley. Prohibits Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) from designating any control area in Willamette Valley that allows raising canola. Authorizes ODA to assess civil penalty up to \$25,000 for violation. Applies to raising canola planted on or after effective date. Sunsets prohibition on growing canola in Willamette Valley on January 2, 2018. Directs College of Agricultural Sciences of Oregon State University to conduct peer-reviewed study and report results to interim committee of Legislative Assembly by November 1, 2016. Identifies study components. Terminates growing prohibition 31 days after 77th Legislature adjourns if research not funded. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Costs and benefits to canola growers and specialty seed growers if canola is grown in Willamette Valley
- Alternative rotational crops to canola for grass and wheat growers
- Status of ODA rule, impetus for change and how ODA will implement rule
- Canola currently grown in valley with research permits
- Potential for canola seed volunteers, seed build-up, pests and diseases

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: Canola is an oilseed crop from plants in the mustard family (*Brassicaceae*). Common types of brassica used for food include cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussel sprouts, and radish. The term "canola" is widely used to refer to rapeseed; canola is a variety of rapeseed bred for human and livestock consumption as well as biodiesel production.

In early 2013, ODA adopted an administrative rule to allow some canola production while also establishing a rapeseed exclusion zone. Most of the Willamette Valley remains a protected district with two zones. A majority of the specialty seed production remains in a rapeseed exclusion zone of nearly 2 million acres where canola production is not allowed. A second zone of about 1.7 million acres allows the growing of canola but production is limited to a maximum annual total of 2,500 acres with a minimum field size of 25 acres. Producers intending to grow canola are required to apply for a contract with ODA that contains specific requirements for managing canola. ODA will award contracts for canola planting by September 1 of each year for requests received before July 15. Under this timeline, canola planting will take place no earlier than fall of 2013.

House Bill 2427 A directs the College of Agricultural Sciences of Oregon State University to conduct a peer-reviewed study on canola and report results to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly by November 1, 2016. The measure also prohibits the growing of canola in the Willamette Valley except to extent necessary to conduct study until 2018 if the Legislature provides funding for the study.

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