77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 3460

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Health Care

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

Vote: 8 - 1 - 0

Yeas: Clem, Conger, Harker, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Thompson, Weidner, Greenlick

CARRIER:

Nays: Kennemer

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Tyler Larson, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/8, 4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) establish by rule medical marijuana facility registration system for transfer of usable marijuana between grow sites and registry identification card holders. Establishes minimum facility application, location and security requirements. Requires OHA conduct criminal background check of facility applicants and refuse registration if responsible individual has prior felony drug conviction. Requires facility test marijuana for pesticides, mold and mildew. Requires facility receive authorization from registry card holder prior to receiving marijuana from grow site. Exempts facility from marijuana plant and usable amount limits. Allows OHA to inspect facility and records to ensure compliance. Allows registry card holder to reimburse facility for normal and customary costs of doing business. Requires OHA notify former facility of registration card holder change of facility. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the bill
- Current legal status of dispensaries
- Patient's need for safe access and proper regulation
- Criminal impact of unregulated dispensaries
- Benefits of pesticide, mold and mildew testing

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In 1998, Oregon voters passed Oregon Ballot Measure 67, which allows the cultivation, possession and use of marijuana by patients with certain medical conditions with a doctor's recommendation. The current application process requires a qualifying patient to apply for registration as an identification card holder. Registry identification card holders identify a grower and grow site address form which to either grow their own plants or obtain medicine from a registered grower. Patients have expressed concerns about growing their own medical marijuana and locating a trustworthy and legal grower. Dispensaries already exist across the state and offer "safe access" for patients to obtain medical marijuana. Dispensaries are not authorized under current statute.

House Bill 3460 requires the Oregon Health Authority establish rules for the registration and regulation of medical marijuana dispensary facilities where registration card holders can obtain medical marijuana. The bill requires facilities be properly licensed and that the product be tested for pesticide, mold and mildew prior to distribution.