77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee on Rules

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 9 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Barnhart, Berger, Dembrow, Hicks, Holvey, Hoyle, Jenson, Kennemer, Garrett

MEASURE: SB 835 A

CARRIER: Rep. Gomberg

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 6/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: States that conducting or participating in rodeos is permitted in Oregon. Prohibits treating rodeos less favorably than other organized exhibitions or events. Creates Class B misdemeanor offense of equine tripping, punishable by up to \$2,500 fine and/or six months jail. Establishes elements of offense as intentional roping or lassoing of equine legs to cause trip or fall for purpose of, or practice for, rodeo, contest, exhibition, entertainment or sport, with exception for veterinary care

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of amendment
- Exemption for providing veterinary services
- Nationally sanctioned competitive rodeo events
- Appropriateness of horsetripping as entertainment

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Establishes person commits offense of equine tripping if, for purposes of rodeo, contest, exhibition, entertainment or sport or as practice for same, person intentionally ropes or lassos legs of equine, intentionally causing equine to trip or fall. Creates exemption for person who causes equine to trip or fall for purpose of allowing veterinary care for equine.

BACKGROUND: Rodeo is a competitive sport which arose out of the working practices of cattle herding. Today's rodeos consist of events that involve horses and other livestock, designed to test the skill and speed of the human cowboy and cowgirl athletes who participate. At least seven states have prohibited horse tripping events at rodeos. Senate Bill 835-A prohibits state law from being applied in a manner that affords less-favorable treatment for the conduct of or participation in rodeos, than for other organized exhibitions. The measure establishes the commission of a Class B misdemeanor of equine tripping if, for purposes of rodeo, contest, exhibition, entertainment or sport or as practice for rodeo, contest, exhibition, entertainment or sport, a person intentionally ropes or lassos the legs of an equine, causing the equine to trip or fall.