

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	8 - 0 - 1
<b>Yeas:</b>	Clem, Conger, Harker, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Weidner, Greenlick
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Thompson
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Tyler Larson, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/6

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires information reported by pest control operators relating to bedbug infestations to be held confidentially by public health authorities and exempts information from disclosure under public records law. Authorizes compilation and publication of bedbug data in statistical reports. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Bedbugs are a growing problem in Multnomah County
- Bedbug treatments are a significant cost for social service providers
- Bedbugs cause significant emotional, physical and financial distress
- Pest management professionals are often the only effective solution to bedbugs
- Bedbugs can exact a significant financial toll on businesses
- Reporting of bedbug infestations by pest control operators is voluntary
- Mandatory reporting of bedbugs may discourage reporting

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Authorizes compilation and publication of bedbug data in statistical reports. Clarifies that information provided by pest control operators to a public health authority must be held confidential. Deletes all references to how information reported to the health authority may be disclosed.

**BACKGROUND:** Bedbugs are parasitic insects that feed on blood. They are transported easily in clothing, luggage and on pets, and multiply quickly. Bites from bedbugs are itchy and irritating and can become infected. Bedbug infestations in New York City reached epidemic levels in 2007 and have continued to spread throughout the country.

Proponents assert that House Bill 2131 A will encourage reporting of bedbug infestations by allowing pest control operators to submit data to public health officials without concern the information may become public. This data can be used by public health officials to more effectively address the human and business impact of bedbugs.

2/8/2013 11:23:00 AM

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