77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session **STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY** Senate Committee on Rural Communities & Economic Development

REVENUE: No revenue impact		
FISCAL: No fiscal impact		
Action:		Do Pass
Vote:		5 - 0 - 0
•	Yeas:	Baertschiger, Burdick, Close, Prozanski, Roblan
I	Nays:	0
]	Exc.:	0
Prepared By:		Racquel Rancier, Administrator
Meeting Dates:		2/5

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Repeals ORS Chapter 583 regarding milk marketing, production and distribution. Repeals requirement that Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) audit fluid milk handler records pertaining to pooling and usage of milk and payments to producers. Eliminates associated provisions regarding minimum pricing, milk marketing areas, production quotas, market pooling, licensing, fees, recordkeeping, and reporting.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Marketing issues now addressed at the federal level
- Programs in statute no longer in use •
- Statute would have to be rewritten to work today •

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In the 1960s, provisions in the Milk Audit and Stabilization Act (ORS Chapter 583) were passed to maintain a stable milk market, ensure an adequate supply of milk, and sustain Oregon's dairy industry. To achieve these goals, ODA was required to audit the records of milk handlers and establish milk marketing areas, production quotas and minimum prices.

In 1970, the Federal government adopted an order implementing a milk stabilization program to generate price uniformity and institute equitable production quotas in the Pacific Northwest. Prices under the Federal program were generally higher, leading fewer producers to participate in Oregon's milk stabilization program. By 1987, less than one third of Oregon's dairy industry participated in the state's milk stabilization program and ODA abolished the program. In reviewing statutes regulating Oregon's licensed milk industry, ODA determined that the Milk Audit and Stabilization Act is obsolete.