

**PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY****CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

**REVENUE: No revenue impact****FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Beth Reiley, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 3/6, 3/18

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to adopt certification standards for persons dealing in nursery stock. Requires ODA to consider certification standards adopted by the federal government, another state or national association for nurseries when establishing certification standards. Increases maximum license fee for growers from \$20,000 to \$25,000 and maximum millage rate from no more than five to seven mills. Authorizes ODA Director to suspend or revoke shipping permit issued if nursery has stock that does not meet interstate shipment cleanliness standards. Increases maximum amount of annual license fee for growers of Christmas trees from \$75 to \$110 for basic charge, from \$3 to \$4.50 per acre. Increases total license fee for growers of Christmas trees from \$5,000 to \$7,000.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** (Proposed -2 Amendment) Authorizes Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to establish expedited permitting process for people affected by wildflower and nursery stock statutes that participate and meet standards of ODA certification program. . Increases maximum license fee for growers from \$20,000 to \$40,000 and maximum millage rate from no more than five to 10 mills.

**BACKGROUND:** The Nursery and Christmas Tree Program protects Oregon's nursery and Christmas tree industries from the introduction and spread of plant pests, disease, and noxious weeds. The program provides services to licensed Oregon nurseries and Christmas tree growers that assist in the production, marketing, and protection of Oregon nursery stock and Christmas trees.