

HB 2668

Relating to industrial hemp

HB 2668 prohibits the Department of Agriculture from issuing industrial hemp or hemp seed production licenses if the operation is within 1,000 feet of a school. The Department is directed to rescind current licenses for growers within 1,000 feet of a school and to provide just compensation if the grower incurred costs prior to revocation. The Department's initial estimate for just compensation is assumed to be \$500 to \$750 per acre.

The measure also directs the Department and Oregon State University's College of Agricultural Sciences to conduct research on currently licensed industrial hemp operations for a minimum of one growing season.

The amendment provides \$100,000 General Fund to the Department of Agriculture for rule-making and to provide just compensation to growers that meet the measure's criteria.

The amendment also provides \$290,000 General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to be used by the Oregon State University College of Agricultural Sciences to conduct the research.

The Capital Construction Subcommittee recommends HB 2668 be amended by the -B14 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.