

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:** 02/11/16

**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Meeting Dates:** 02/09, 02/11

**Vote:**

Yeas: 5 - Fagan, Holvey, Hoyle, McLain, Rayfield

Nays: 3 - Buehler, Nearman, Stark

**Prepared By:** Victoria Cox, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires package containing genetically engineered fish destined for human consumption to be labeled with words "Produced with Genetic Engineering." Requires container of unpackaged genetically engineered fish destined for human consumption to be labeled with words "Genetically Engineered." Specifies that products and containers not labeled accordingly are misbranded. Provides exceptions. Directs State Department of Agriculture to adopt rules for labeling requirements. Establishes effective dates.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Measure as introduced to allow local jurisdictions to prohibit genetically engineered crops in order to protect crops that are not genetically engineered
- Issues raised by farmers of both genetically engineered and non-genetically engineered crops
- Intent of previous legislation prohibiting local bans for Dept. of Agriculture to address issues
- Provisions of amended measure to create labeling requirements for genetically engineered fish
- Possibility of pre-emption by federal labeling regulations

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

ORS 633.738 prohibits local governments from enacting or enforcing regulations of production or use of agricultural seed, flower seed, nursery seed, vegetable seed or products of any of those seeds. House Bill 4122, as introduced, would have created an exception for local governments acting to protect the production or use of seed or products that are not genetically engineered from adverse impacts of seeds or products that are.

House Bill 4122-A defines genetically engineered fish destined for human consumption and establishes requirements for labeling it. Requirements for both packaged and unpackaged products are outlined. The Department of Agriculture is directed to adopt labeling rules. The labeling requirements apply to products packaged on or after January 1, 2018 and to containers of unpackaged fish on the same date.