

HB 3116 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Trade

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Meeting Dates: 3/27, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows sale of candled eggs as ungraded if the producer sells directly to customers, by consignment, or at a location used for farm direct marketing. Specifies labeling and information requirements for ungraded eggs. Exempts sale of ungraded eggs from egg handler fee. Allows sales of shell eggs at location used for farm direct marketing if producer or seller is licensed as egg handler.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Definition of "candled eggs"
- Farm market egg sales
- Current Oregon egg law

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Allows licensed egg handlers to sell properly labeled ungraded shell eggs to farm-direct customers. Restores requirement for producers to pay egg handling fee on ungraded eggs.

BACKGROUND:

Under current Oregon law, the interior quality of eggs need to be determined prior to sale. This process is called "candling" and requires the egg be held between a light and the inspector to gauge the interior quality. Depending on the egg's size, shell, and interior quality, it is given a AA, A, or B grade. Eggs sold by licensed egg handlers are typically required to pay a egg handler fee of \$.0025 for every dozen eggs sold.

House Bill 3116 allows for sales of candled eggs as ungraded if the egg producer sells them directly to consumers, by consignment, or at a farmer's market. The measure would also require the egg carton to clearly be labeled as "ungraded" and indicate the number of eggs in the carton. House Bill 3116 would exempt ungraded eggs from the egg handler fee.