

HB 3253 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

Prepared By: Cassandra Soucy, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/6, 4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Clarifies that state agencies and departments shall purchase certain products and services from Commission for the Blind. Establishes Business Enterprise Program within commission to maintain and manage authorized vending facilities. Requires commission to facilitate certain dispute resolution meetings. Requires commission to submit annual report to Legislative Assembly. Becomes operative January 1, 2018. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law requires state agencies and departments to purchase certain products and services from the Commission for the Blind as part of the state's efforts to increase economic opportunities for the visually impaired. The commission is authorized by statute to operate vending facilities in public buildings and properties, with the approval of the relevant agency head. The commission is also tasked with surveying public properties for determining suitability of vending facilities, as well as training and licensing qualified blind staff for the facilities.

House Bill 3252 requires state agencies and departments to purchase certain products and services from Commission for the Blind (Commission). The Business Enterprise Program is established within the Commission to maintain and manage authorized vending facilities and requires facilitation of certain dispute resolution meetings.