

HB 3116 -A3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 4/24, 4/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Specifies that the consignment sale of shell eggs by a farm direct marketer, if the producer or seller is licensed as an egg handler, is not subject to food and food establishment sanitary regulations (ORS 616.695 - 616.755). Allows consignment sale of eggs by a farm direct marketer without an egg handler license if eggs are produced by a licensed egg handler. Allows a producer to sell candled eggs as "ungraded" if producer sells directly to consumer or sells eggs of producer's own production by consignment to farm direct consumers. Establishes labeling requirements for ungraded eggs.

Minimal fiscal impact

No revenue impact

House Vote: Passed. Ayes, 55; Excused, 5--Boone, Gorsek, Hack, Hayden, Malstrom

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Egg sales at farmers' markets
- Current statutory requirement to grade eggs
- Addition of emergency clause so measure applies to sales at farmers' markets this summer

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A3 Adds emergency clause.

Minimal fiscal impact, no revenue impact

BACKGROUND:

Under current Oregon law, an egg's interior quality needs 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 3116A allows the sale of candled eggs as ungraded if the producer of the egg sells directly to consumers or by consignment 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.