

HB 2482 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Business and Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 5/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Limits self-service fuel dispensing to low-population counties in eastern Oregon and other specified counties. Eliminates the hours of operation restriction on self-service fueling stations, service stations, garages and other dispensaries in low-population counties of eastern Oregon. Requires fueling station, service station, garage or other retail dispensary in low-population county of eastern Oregon or other specified county offering self-service to have an attendant available for dispensing fuel during specified hours if located at a site that includes retail space unrelated to certain motor vehicle goods and services. Allows nonretail fuel dispensing facilities in low-population counties of eastern Oregon to allow self-service dispensing of fuel at retail.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: Minimal revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon is one of two states (along with New Jersey) that restrict the ability of persons to self-dispense gasoline and other Class 1 flammable liquids at retail locations. Class 1 liquids include, but are not limited to, liquids such as gasoline, methanol, acetone and benzene. House Bill 3011 (2015) authorized self-service of these liquids at retail facilities in low-population counties between the hours of 6:00 PM and 6:00 AM under certain circumstances.

House Bill 2482-B allows self-service at retail locations 24 hours per day in rural counties with fewer than 40,000 residents in eastern Oregon; these counties are Malheur, Union, Wasco, Hood River, Jefferson, Crook, Baker, Morrow, Lake, Grant, Harney, Wallowa, Gilliam, Sherman, and Wheeler counties. Because these counties are sparsely populated, proponents of the measure assert that it is impractical to staff a retail facility for fueling 24 hours per day, which can lead to situations in which a traveler may be without the ability to refuel in remote locations late at night. The measure specifies that retail dispensaries that sell goods and services at the same location must provide an employee to dispense fuel between the hours of 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM.

Finally, House Bill 2482-B allows nonretail cardlock fueling facilities in low-population eastern Oregon counties to provide access to retail customers for self-dispensing of fuel.

HOUSE VOTE: 56-0