HB 2730 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/24, 5/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows golf course on land determined to be high-value farmland located west of U.S. Highway 101, surrounded on all sides by approved golf course and not otherwise described in ORS 195.300 (10).

Minimal fiscal impact, no revenue impact

House Vote: Passed. Ayes, 52; Nays, 5--Alonso Leon, Helm, Holvey, Power, Rayfield; Excused, 1--Heard; Excused for Business of the House, 2--Gomberg, Marsh

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's land use program emphasizes preserving agricultural lands through planning and zoning, including exclusive farm use (EFU) and high-value farmland designations. High-value farmland includes land with certain classes of soils and located in areas particularly well-suited to growing crops or other agricultural activities (OAR 660-033-0010). Currently Oregon law prohibits the establishment of golf courses on lands zoned EFU unless they are sited on land determined not to be high-value farmland.

House Bill 2730A would allow an exception for a golf course to be sited on high-value farmland located west of U.S. Highway 101 and surrounded on all sides by a golf course.