



HB 2254 - Statutory Clean-up ORS 632 Export Product

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Description

- Provides a definition for commodity, commodity pack, shipping container, and United States.
- Provides an exemption from labeling horticultural commodities and commodity packs destined for export.
- Provides for labeling if the export is canceled.

Background

Oregon exports a significant amount of agricultural and horticultural products overseas. Oregon has very specific requirements for all agricultural and horticultural containers to be labeled as appropriate for sale, however, in the case where commodities are being directly exported to foreign markets, these labeling requirements creates challenges and puts excess burden on shippers.

Foreign countries have their own specific labeling standards. In many cases, foreign buyers request that master containers come labeled with pertinent information about contents, but individual containers (e.g. clamshells) ship unlabeled so importers can apply foreign market labeling at point of entry. In addition, most of the time labels need to be in the foreign language of import.

Other states, like California, that export a significant amount of these products have a "For Export Only" clause in state labeling laws to allow for non-labeled clamshells to be transported directly for export in a properly labeled master container.

Current statute has explicit labeling requirements with no exemption for export products. These requirements limit Oregon exporters and add extra cost that puts them at a competitive disadvantage with other neighboring states.

HB 2544 simply provides an exemption from labeling requirements when product is destined for export markets and enables shippers to meet market demands.