

HB 2152 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Trade

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Meeting Dates: 2/8, 2/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows small business development centers to use state grant funding for outreach and marketing. Requires the Oregon Business Development Department to collaborate with other state agencies, state-supported organizations, and private sector entities to provide specified services to small businesses.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Small business development center operations and services
- How small business development centers define a 'targeted population'
- Existing federal and state regulations for use of funds by small business development centers

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Removes requirement that Business Oregon collaborate with agencies, organizations, and private sector entities on small business development centers' behalf. Requires small business development centers to collaborate when practicable with agencies, organizations, and private sector entities to provide specified services to small businesses.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact

BACKGROUND:

There are 19 small business development centers (SBDCs) currently operating throughout Oregon, mostly in conjunction with community colleges and public universities. These SBDCs provide services to Oregon businesses including advising, training, and other business resources. Under current Oregon law, SBDCs are prohibited from using state funds to engage in outreach and marketing efforts to publicize these services.

House Bill 2152 would allow SBDCs to use state funding to perform outreach or marketing activities. House Bill 2152 also directs the Oregon Business Development Department (Business Oregon) to work with other specified organizations to provide business support services to small businesses in Oregon.