

SB 303 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Olson

Joint Committee On Marijuana Regulation

Action Date: 03/21/17

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed B-Eng.)

Senate Vote

Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Burdick, Ferrioli, Kruse, Prozanski

House Vote

Yeas: 5 - Fahey, Helm, Lininger, Olson, Wilson

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

Prepared By: Adam Crawford, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates consistent prohibitions, procedures and penalties for a minor possessing, purchasing or acquiring either alcoholic beverages or marijuana items. Defines procedures for persons undergoing assessment and treatment related to marijuana use. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Workgroup process that led to the measure
- Existing criminal penalties for minors in possession of alcohol or marijuana
- Juvenile criminal procedures

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Resolves conflicts between the measure and Senate Bill 302 A related to youth offenders.

BACKGROUND:

Current Oregon law treats minors found in possession of alcoholic beverages differently compared to minors found in possession of marijuana items. It is a Class B violation for minors to be found in possession of alcohol. However, a minor can be charged with either a Class B violation if found with less than one ounce of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor if found with between one and eight ounces of marijuana, or a Class A misdemeanor if found in possession of more than eight ounces of marijuana.

Senate Bill 303 B makes it a Class B violation for a minor to possess either alcoholic beverages or marijuana items. The bill further stipulates that it is a Class A violation for any minor found in possession of either alcoholic beverages or marijuana items while operating a motor vehicle.