

HB 3116 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Economic Development and Trade

Carrier: Rep. Marsh

Action Date: 04/03/17

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

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Clem, Gomberg, Helm, Lewis, Lininger, Marsh, Post, Reschke, Smith DB

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows sale of candled eggs as ungraded if the producer sells directly to customers, by consignment, or at a location used for farm-direct marketing. Specifies labeling and information requirements for ungraded eggs. Allows producers or licensed egg handlers to sell properly labeled ungraded shell eggs to farm-direct customers. Requires producers or licensed egg handlers pay the egg handling fee for every dozen ungraded eggs sold.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Definition of "candled eggs"
- Farm market egg sales
- Current Oregon egg law

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Allows licensed egg handlers to sell properly labeled ungraded shell eggs to farm-direct customers. Restores requirement for producers to pay egg handling fee on ungraded eggs.

BACKGROUND:

Under current Oregon law, an egg's interior quality needs to be determined prior to sale. This process is called "candling" and requires the egg be held between a light and the inspector to gauge the interior quality. Depending on the egg's size, shell, and interior quality, it is given a AA, A, or B grade. Eggs sold by licensed egg handlers are typically required to pay a egg handler fee of \$.0025 for every dozen eggs sold.

House Bill 3116 A allows for sales of candled eggs as ungraded if the egg producer sells them directly to consumers, by consignment, or at a farmer's market. The measure would also require the egg carton to clearly be labeled as "ungraded" and indicate the number of eggs in the carton. House Bill 3116 A would also allow licensed egg handlers to sell ungraded eggs at farmer's markets if they were properly labeled as ungraded.