

HB 2371 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Carrier: Rep. Wilson

Action Date: 04/18/17
Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)
Vote: 8-0-1-0
Yeas: 8 - Barreto, Clem, Esquivel, McKeown, McLain, Power, Smith DB, Witt
Exc: 1 - Sprenger
Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: No revenue impact
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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Oregon Industrial Hemp Agricultural Pilot Research Program and requires Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to administer and adopt rules for program. Requires Director of Agriculture and Dean of College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University to establish program for labeling and certification of agricultural hemp seed. Prescribes rules for program. Allows accredited independent testing laboratory approved by Oregon Health Authority, Department of Environmental Quality or ODA to test and approve industrial hemp and related products. Directs ODA to develop standard identification documentation for industrial hemp and related products. Stipulates that licensing requirements do not apply to production or storage of homegrown industrial hemp under four plants, subject to restrictions. Expands the definition of "homegrown marijuana" to include "plants in the genus Cannabis within the plant family Cannabaceae." Specifies industrial hemp tetrahydrocannabinol concentration limits for various uses of industrial hemp. Establishes Industrial Hemp Fund for purposes of implementing, administering and enforcing Oregon Industrial Hemp Agricultural Pilot Research Program.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Industrial hemp task force overview
- Differences between marijuana and industrial hemp
- Bringing industrial hemp into state agricultural crop model

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces original measure.

BACKGROUND:

Industrial hemp is an agricultural product that is subject to regulation by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and refers to cannabis varieties that are grown for fiber, seed, oil or as a cover crop. In 2009, the Legislative Assembly enacted Senate Bill 676 which authorized the production, possession and commerce in industrial hemp and commodities in Oregon. In 2016, House Bill 4060 updated and clarified provisions related to the regulation of industrial hemp and authorized ODA to adopt rules to govern quality, packaging and labeling of industrial hemp seed.

House Bill 2371A establishes the Oregon Industrial Hemp Agricultural Pilot Research Program and requires the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to administer and adopt rules for the program. The measure directs ODA and the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University to establish a program for labeling and certification of agricultural hemp seed, subject to certain guidelines, and allows accredited independent testing laboratories to be approved by the Oregon Health Authority, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality or ODA for testing and approval of industrial hemp and related products. HB 2371A exempts homegrown industrial hemp under four plants from licensing requirements and specifies tetrahydrocannabinol concentration limits for various uses of industrial hemp. Establishes the Industrial Hemp Fund for purposes of implementing, administering and enforcing the Oregon Industrial Hemp Agricultural Pilot Research Program.