

SB 1555 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

Action Date: 02/06/18

Action: Do pass with amendments. Refer to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng).

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Gelser, Knopp, Linthicum, Monnes Anderson, Wagner

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Prepared By: Jamie Hinsz, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies purposes for which a certain percentage of moneys in Oregon Marijuana Account may be used. Applies to any moneys transferred to account after effective date of Act. Sunsets and reverts law to original statutory language on July 1, 2019. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Technical fix and budget nature of measure
- Original intent to allocate portion of marijuana tax revenues to community mental health services
- Need for amendment
- Support of the cannabis industry for the measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Sunsets and reverts law to original statutory language on July 1, 2019.

BACKGROUND:

A portion of the retail marijuana tax revenues are allocated to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for use in alcohol and drug abuse prevention, early intervention and treatment. House Bill 5026 (2017) specified that \$16 million of these tax revenues be spent on community mental health services. Current statute directs marijuana tax revenues into the Mental Health Alcoholism and Drug Services Account, which can only allocate moneys for drug abuse prevention, early intervention and treatment services, and not community mental health services. Senate Bill 1555 A enables the OHA to distribute a portion of the retail marijuana tax revenues to community mental health services as specified in House Bill 5026.