



## **HB 2057: Weights and Measures Device Fee Increase**

**Contact** Lisa Hanson, Deputy Director  
503-986-4632/lhanson@oda.state.or.us  
Jason Barber, Program Director  
503-986-4767/jbarber@oda.state.or.us

### **Description**

- Raises statutory cap for weighing and measuring devices.
- Provides that fees may not increase more than 3% per year.

### **Background**

The Weights and Measures Program acts as an impartial third-party overseeing Oregon's Commercial Marketplace to ensure equity in transactions for both the buyer and seller while, at the same time, working to encourage economic growth, fair competition and the prevention and elimination of fraud and other deceptive and misleading practices. The program also responds to and investigates complaints of discrepancies in weighing and measuring devices.

The Weights and Measures Program relies completely on revenue generated from licensing commercial weighing and measuring equipment including retail grocery store scales, gas pumps, fuel meters and commercial vehicle scales, livestock scales, industrial scales, and wholesale fuel meters. The Program uses the fees to provide testing services for weighing and measuring devices used by some 13,000 Oregon businesses operating statewide.

Under the current law, the Program would reach the statutory fee caps for weighing and measuring devices July 1, 2019. This cap was established in 2007 (SB238). The cost to operate the program increases annually due to inflation, rising labor costs, and an increasing caseload. Since 2007 the number of licensed devices has increased from approximately 53,000 to just over 60,000. Approximately 50% of these are currently used in motor fuel dispensers and 25% are small scales used in retail grocery stores. It is important to maintain room within a statutory cap so that the program can adjust license fees administratively, set appropriate fees to serve the growing customer base, maintain the existing level of program services, and to ensure full cost recovery of the Program.

### **Stakeholder Outreach**

Stakeholder outreach was conducted with the Weights and Measures Advisory Committee as well as the Motor Fuel Quality Advisory Committee—together including representation from: Oregon Fuels Association, Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA), Sequential Biofuels, AAA of Oregon, Automobiles Manufacturers Association, Automobile Alliance, Kinder Morgan Inc., Oregon Trucking Association, Northwest Grocery Association, Northwest Propane Gas Association, Oregon Pawnbrokers Association, ODOT, ODOE, and Oregon Farmer's Market Association. Oregon cannabis groups were also notified of this legislative concept.