

HB 3194 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 3/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows self-service dispensing of Class 1 flammable liquids at a retail facility.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon and New Jersey are the only states that do not allow self-service dispensing of Class 1 flammable liquids. Class 1 flammable liquids, such as gasoline, have a flashpoint below 73.4 degrees Fahrenheit. Oregon law (ORS 480.315) limits and prohibits self-service dispensing of Class 1 flammable liquids and includes, as reasons for doing so, that trained employees reduce fire hazards associated with dispensing the liquids; self-service stations may not be able to maintain appropriate safety standards; self-service dispensing can increase risk of injury from liquids on pavement and other health hazards; and senior citizens and persons with disabilities may have more difficulty with self-service dispensing of the liquid.

House Bill 3011 (2015) permitted counties with populations less than 40,000 residents to self-dispense Class 1 flammable liquids after 6:00PM and before 6:00AM. Senate Bill 2482, enacted two years later, authorized self-dispensing of Class 1 flammable liquids 24 hours per day in counties with less than 40,000 residents that are located in eastern Oregon. Drivers may request to have a third party dispense the liquid if the dispensary has a retail section. In Oregon, almost 6,000 people were employed as Service Station Attendants in 2017, at an average annual salary of \$26,320 in 2018.

House Bill 3194 expands self-service dispensing of Class 1 flammable liquids at retail facilities throughout the state by allowing any station to operate up to 25 percent of its fuel dispensing devices as self-serve.