

SB 914 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Energy and Environment

Prepared By: Misty Freeman, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/18, 4/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires a distributor or importer of beverages in beverage containers to either participate in a distributor cooperative or to register with a distributor cooperative as a nonparticipating distributor or importer. Directs nonparticipating distributor or importer to report to a distributor cooperative information necessary to maintain a beverage container registry, including details on all beverage containers sold and redeemed in the state during the year. Specifies information to be collected for the registry must include the name of the beverage, container size, and whether the container is made of glass, metal, or plastic. Requires a distributor cooperative to report the registry annually to the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Senate Vote (3/26/19): Carried by Prozanski. Passed. Ayes, 27; Nays, 3--Linthicum, Thatcher, Thomsen.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 1971, Oregon enacted the “Bottle Bill,” which is the nation’s longest-standing beverage container deposit law. In 2007, the legislature expanded coverage of the five-cent deposit to include water and flavored water. In 2011, the legislature expanded the types of beverage containers subject to the deposit to include juices, teas, and more; set a trigger for the deposit to increase to 10 cents if the recycling rate fell below 80 percent for two consecutive years; and set up a redemption center pilot project. In 2013, Senate Bill 117 modified the redemption center program by removing its status as a pilot program and authorizing the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) to approve additional centers. The redemption centers—known as “BottleDrops”—are operated and funded by the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative, the distributor cooperative currently operating in Oregon, in partnership with grocery retailers.

Senate Bill 914 A would require a distributor or importer who does not participate in a beverage container distributor cooperative to register with and provide information to the cooperative. The measure would also require the cooperative to maintain and submit to OLCC a beverage container registry, which contains information about beverage containers sold and redeemed during the previous year.