

SB 943 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Land Use

Prepared By: Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Expands the list of reasonable uses of land that a city or county must allow wherever nonresidential places of worship are authorized, to include a parsonage. Requires the parsonage to be 2,500 square feet or less, within 300 feet of the place of worship if detached, and not on high-value farmland if it can be avoided.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

SENATE FLOOR VOTE: 27-0-3-0; Excused: Fagan, Gelser, Johnson

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

A parsonage is typically a dwelling that is provided by a religious institution for its officiant to live in. In Oregon, wherever a nonresidential place of worship is allowed on real property, cities and counties must allow reasonable uses of the property for activities associated with the particular religious practice, such as weddings, worship, and instruction, and including residential housing. Such residential housing is allowed so long as at least half of what is available is affordable to households with incomes up to 60 percent of the median family income in the area; the property is within the urban growth boundary; and the property is zoned for such use and otherwise compliant with land use regulations and other development criteria.

Senate Bill 943 A would add the development of a parsonage to the list of reasonable uses that cities and counties must allow where nonresidential places of worship are authorized.