

SB 258 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Business and General Government

Action Date: 02/21/19

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

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Girod, Hass, Olsen, Riley

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Tyler Larson, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 1/31, 2/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$2.2 million from General Fund to Oregon Business Development Department for distribution to Oregon Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network and specified economic development entities. Requires moneys be used for building entrepreneurial capacity and regional assets in rural regions of the state and building network of statewide resources. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Obstacles to finding entrepreneurial resources and investors outside of Portland metro area
- Potential benefits of connecting rural entrepreneurs to local resources and investors including local growth and job creation

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Increases appropriation to \$2.2 million and adds additional economic development entity as recipient.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (RAIN) is a coalition of government and entrepreneurial business leaders that promotes economic development through entrepreneurial ventures in rural Oregon. Senate Bill 258-A appropriates \$1 million from the General Fund for Oregon RAIN and \$1.2 million as follows:

- \$400,000 to Oregon Entrepreneurs Network;
- \$200,000 to Economic Development for Central Oregon;
- \$200,000 to Strategic Economic Development Corporation;
- \$200,000 to Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc.; and,
- \$200,000 to South Central Oregon Economic Development District.