

## SB 727 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Human Services

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**Action Date:** 03/14/19

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

**Vote:** 5-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 5 - Fagan, Gelser, Heard, Knopp, Monnes Anderson

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Jamie Hinsz, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/21, 3/14

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Human Services (DHS) to adopt by rule program to provide funds to assist participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) with purchasing locally grown fruits and vegetables from participating farmer's markets, farm share sites, and food outlets. Requires program to match amounts recipients spend on eligible foods. Requires report by December 31, 2021, as specified. Appropriates \$3,000,000 General Fund dollars to DHS for implementation. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure
- Referral to another committee

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a federally funded program which offers nutrition assistance to low-income individuals and families. In January 2019, the Department of Human Services provided SNAP benefits to 355,628 families for a total of 609,327 individuals. According to the Food and Nutrition Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, there are currently 3,327 Oregon retailers participating in the SNAP program.

Senate Bill 727 A appropriates \$3,000,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services (DHS) to contract with a nonprofit organization to implement and administer a program for recipients of SNAP benefits to help them purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables from participating farmer's markets, farm share sites, and food outlets. The measure requires the nonprofit to provide low-income populations with greater access to fresh, locally grown foods and have established relationships with participating sellers. Senate Bill 727 A also requires the program to match amounts spent on eligible foods and directs the contracted nonprofit to review program outcomes, including impact on the purchase of locally grown fruits and vegetables, and report its findings no later than December 31, 2021.