SB 1529 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Action Date: 02/20/20

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Findley, Hass, Knopp, Riley, Taylor

Revenue: Revenue impact issued
Prepared By: Kaitlyn Harger, Economist

Meeting Dates: 2/4, 2/11, 2/13, 2/18, 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates a standalone provision detailing how the numerator of the sales factor should be calculated for broadcasting sales. Directs taxpayers to use third party ratings or information from their books and records to determine the numerator of the sales factor. In cases where aforementioned information is not available the Department of Revenue may use the ratio of Oregon population to United States population as the sales factor. In the case of licensing to subscription services or advertising on subscription services the numerator of the sales factor is equal to 0.6% multiplied by the taxpayer's receipts from licensing to subscription services and advertising on subscription services. Adds to statute a modified definition of broadcasting. Provides all taxpayers with an option to elect to apply their apportionment ratio to their total gross receipts, not just broadcasting sales. Repeals statutes specifically related to interstate broadcasters and removes from statute references that become obsolete upon repeal. Applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Changes to broadcaster apportionment over time in Oregon
- Market based sourcing
- Nexus
- Options for apportioning broadcaster income

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the bill.

BACKGROUND:

In 2014, due to the passing of HB 4138, Oregon changed its method of corporate apportionment for interstate broadcasters. The legislation changed Oregon from an apportionment method based on the share of viewers in Oregon, called audience factor apportionment, to a method based on the state of domicile of customers of interstate broadcasters, called domicile factor apportionment. This temporary legislation was in place through tax year 2019. In the 2019 session, SB 193 temporarily extended the domicile factor method of apportionment for tax year 2019 and required the Legislative Revenue Officer, in consultation with the Department of Revenue, to study broadcaster apportionment methods. The bill required the LRO to submit a report detailing the results of this study. The report had four key findings. First, LRO raised concerns about the breadth of the definition of broadcasting in Oregon statute. The report also highlighted the dynamic nature of the industry and its ongoing changes with an expectation of continued changes within the near future. Third, LRO described how key assumptions related to nexus affect the revenue impact estimates both in magnitude and direction. Finally, LRO suggested greater statutory direction on apportionment factor calculations for this industry.

Carrier: Sen. Hass