

SB 332 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Imposes minimum service requirements on the TriMet. Prohibits TriMet from imposing a tax on employer payroll or self-employment earnings on employers or individuals outside of certain proximity to transit routes.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Prohibits providing *or contracting for* services directed at specific businesses in vehicles not clearly marked as operated by the mass transit district or not available to all passengers. Expands prohibition on imposing tax on employer payroll or self-employment earnings on employers or individuals more than one mile from transit routes to all mass transit districts.

BACKGROUND:

The Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District, better known as TriMet, was created in 1969 to replace the defunct Rose City Transit. Today, TriMet is the state's largest transit agency, operating bus lines, light-rail (MAX), and commuter rail (Westside Express Service, or WES) over a system that spans the Portland metropolitan region from Troutdale to Forest Grove, and from North Portland to Oregon City, Wilsonville, and Sherwood. TriMet also provides vehicle operators and maintenance services for the Portland Streetcar. During Fiscal Year 2019, TriMet saw nearly 75 million originating rides on its fixed route bus, MAX, and WES lines, with almost one million additional rides on its LIFT paratransit service.

Senate Bill 332 directs TriMet to provide transit service between 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM every day, with a frequency of at least one per hour, along all arterial roadways within the district that are adjacent to four or more blocks zoned for commercial use, and between 6:00 AM and 11:00 PM along any arterial roadway adjacent to at least two specified types of properties (commercial shopping centers, libraries, and schools). The measure also specifies that TriMet may not impose employer payroll taxes on employers that do not do business or have a place of business located within one mile of a transit route.