

HB 2758 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery

Prepared By: C. Ross, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 5/11, 5/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires at least two members of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) to have backgrounds in public health. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

House committee: 4-1-0

House floor: 38-17-5

A-engrossed version: no revenue or fiscal impact

-A6 amendment: no revenue or fiscal impact

-A8 amendment: no revenue impact and minimal fiscal impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Addictions epidemic that includes consumption of alcohol
- Human and economic cost of consumption of alcohol
- Insidious nature of disease of alcoholism
- Deliberate generality of requirement for public health background to allow wide variety of potential members
- Extent of policy shift to prioritize protection of public health

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

[-A6 amendment dated 5/17/21] Changes number of members with public health background from two to one, and specifies experience with substance abuse education and prevention.

[-A8 amendment dated 5/19/21] Replaces original content. Directs OLCC to study its composition and expertise of membership as specified and report to the legislature by December 31, 2021.

BACKGROUND:

Alcohol and recreational marijuana are strictly regulated industries that generate significant revenue. The Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) oversees the distribution and sale of alcoholic beverages, and businesses and personnel that serve alcohol; it regulates the production, processing, transport and sale of recreational marijuana, as well as the sale of medical products through retail marijuana stores to medical marijuana cardholders; and it enforces Oregon's Bottle Bill. The OLCC is comprised of seven members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Currently, among other qualifications and limitations, members must represent the residents of each of Oregon's congressional districts; one must be from eastern Oregon and one from western Oregon; and one must be from the retail food and alcoholic beverage industry.

House Bill 2758 A additionally requires at least two members of the OLCC to have backgrounds in public health.