**SB 893    STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**                                **Carrier:** Rep. Marsh

**Joint Committee On The Second Special Session of 2021**

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| **Action Date:** | 12/13/21 |
| **Action:** | Do Pass. |
| **House Vote** | |
| **Yeas:** | 7 - Breese-Iverson, Fahey, Holvey, Pham, Rayfield, Smith G, Wallan |
| **Senate Vote** | |
| **Yeas:** | 7 - Beyer, Findley, Girod, Jama, Knopp, Steiner Hayward, Taylor |
| **Fiscal:** | Fiscal impact issued |
| **Revenue:** | No revenue impact |
| **Prepared By:** | Gillian Fischer, Counsel |
| **Meeting Dates:** | 12/13 |

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to prioritize awards of financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies to partner with community-based organizations in order to address humanitarian crisis associated with unlawful marijuana cultivation or distribution operations when awarding grants through the Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Program. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**
- Cartel-sponsored marijuana grows
- Threats to physical safety related to increased competition for limited water resources
- Illegal employment practices of illegal marijuana grow operations
- Shortage of workers for local farmers
- Human trafficking and human rights violations fueled by illegal grows and worker shortage

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2018, the Legislative Assembly enacted Senate Bill 1544 which created the Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Program to provide financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies. The program is funded by the Oregon Marijuana Account and administered by the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC). CJC is directed to evaluate the efficacy of services funded by the program and is required to report annually to the Legislative Assembly on the program. The program and funding mechanism sunset in January 2024.

Senate Bill 893 directs the CJC to prioritize distribution of grant awards funded by the program to local law enforcement in order to address humanitarian crisis associated with unlawful marijuana cultivation or distribution operations.

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*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*