

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 5519

Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Gomberg

SB 5519 is the budget bill for the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission. The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends a budget of \$367,611,654 Other Funds and 376 positions (373.02 FTE). This is a 7.6% increase from the 2023-25 current service level.

The recommended budget eliminates vacant positions, reclassifies positions to allow for more efficient use of existing position authority, and adds one position to help address public records requests in a timelier manner. Additional expenditure limitation will also allow the agency to replace vehicles in the agency's motor pool that are at least eight years or older, updates communications around recreational marijuana consumer and licensing issues, and supports positions for more robust inspections of cannabis testing laboratories. The budget enables OLCC to order of a portion of equipment and fixtures for the expanded warehouse, in anticipation of the agency's move to its new facility. A transfer of \$2.3 million in marijuana licensing fees to the Oregon Department of Agriculture is included, to fund costs and staff associated with a state cannabis reference laboratory, which is authorized by House Bill 2931, also before the Ways and Means Committee for consideration.

Two budget notes are included in the recommendation. The first concerns a requested analysis of the extent to which agency positions devote time to matters related to liquor vs cannabis regulation, and agency management structure. The second budget note

directs the OLCC and the Department of Agriculture to enter into an inter-agency agreement outlining costs, responsibilities, and roles pursuant to services provided by the reference lab.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends SB 5519 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.