# SB 411 A    STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

**Carrier:** Rep. Evans

## House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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| **Action Date:** | 04/24/23 |
| **Action:** | Do Pass the A-Eng bill. |
| **Vote:** | 11-0-0-0 |
| **Yeas:** | 11 - Bowman, Conrad, Dexter, Diehl, Goodwin, Javadi, Morgan, Nelson, Nosse, Pham H, Tran |
| **Fiscal:** | No fiscal impact |
| **Revenue:** | No revenue impact |
| **Prepared By:** | Brian Nieubuurt, LPRO Analyst |
| **Meeting Dates:** | 4/19, 4/24 |

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Adds hospital, medical, and infectious waste incinerator meeting specified requirements to facilities at which covered drugs under drug takeback program may be disposed of. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**
- House Bill 3273 (2019) and rulemaking process
- Current drug disposal methods
- Other states permitting drug disposal at hospital, medical, and infectious waste incinerators

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Leftover or expired medications can pose both health and environmental risks. If not properly disposed, unused medications could lead to accidental poisonings or contribute to drug abuse. Chemical compounds from medications can also pass through treatment plants and septic systems, ending up in rivers or groundwater and leading to potential environmental and health impacts.

Oregon's Drug Take-Back Program was established in the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality in 2019 with the passage of House Bill 3273. The Drug Take-Back Program offers Oregon residents a convenient, safe, and secure way to dispose of unwanted medications at either drop-off locations or via the mail. The program is available to Oregon residents; nonbusiness entities in Oregon; and ultimate users, as defined by 21 U.S.C. 802(27). Current law limits the locations at which medications may be disposed of to hazardous waste disposal facilities or municipal solid waste incinerators.

Senate Bill 411 A adds hospitals and medical and infectious waste incinerators meeting specified requirements to facilities at which drugs given to the Drug Take-Back Program may be disposed of.

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