

HB 2612 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 2/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), by rule, to establish official state grades and standards of quality and identity for unpasteurized butter, and allows ODA to adopt recommended or required practices for ensuring safety or marketability. Authorizes a person to sell or offer for sale within the state unpasteurized butter that conforms to the grades and standards established by ODA, and prohibits product that does not conform. Provides that prohibition applies to sale or offer for sale of unpasteurized butter on or after effective date of ODA rules adoption establishing grades and standards for unpasteurized butter. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Current statute (ORS 621.116) relating to retail sale of unpasteurized milk from cows, states that a person may not sell or distribute for sale unpasteurized milk or fluid milk from cows, or dairy products from unpasteurized milk or fluid milk from cows, other than to a distributor, producer-distributor, dairy products plant licensee, or non-processing cooperative. Pasteurization requirements or sales and distributions by a person is exempted for small scale on-farm sales, defined when a person owns not more than three dairy cows that have calved at least once, nine sheep that have lactated at least once, or nine goats that have lactated at least once.

House Bill 2612 would direct the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to establish state grades and standards of quality and identity for unpasteurized butter, allow ODA to adopt recommended or required practices for ensuring safety or marketability, authorize a person to sell or offer for sale within this state unpasteurized butter that conforms to the grades and standards established by ODA, and prohibit product that does not conform to those grades and standards.