

SB 402 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Labor and Business

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Meeting Dates: 4/6, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows hemp grower or handler to sell or transfer hemp cuttings if the cuttings are not intended for consumption. Allows person that receives hemp cuttings to sell or transfer hemp cuttings, including as part of a bouquet or other arrangement. Exempts hemp sold or transferred from concentration testing. Becomes operative January 1, 2022. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment *sine die*.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Hemp is a variety of cannabis that contains minimal tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), a psychoactive compound that produces altered states in the brain. Hemp has a long history as an industrial fiber and has recently gained popularity as the source of cannabidiol (CBD), a compound marketed as a natural remedy for a variety of ailments. The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has regulated the production, possession, and commerce in industrial hemp, defined as cannabis containing no more than 0.3 percent THC, since 2009. Hemp growers and handlers that produce or process cannabis seeds capable of germination as commodities or products must register with ODA. Registered growers and handlers may not sell or transfer a hemp commodity or product intended for human consumption unless it meets requirements adopted by the Oregon Health Authority for testing marijuana items.

Senate Bill 402 allows registered hemp growers and handlers to sell or transfer hemp cuttings not intended for consumption, and allows any person who receives hemp cuttings to sell or transfer the cuttings, including as part of a bouquet or other arrangement. If enacted, the measure would become operative January 1, 2022.