

SB 808 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On General Government

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Meeting Dates: 5/18, 5/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Amends definition of peace officer in ORS 133.005 to include regulatory specialists exercising authority described in ORS 475B.025 or 475B.299. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

Senate vote: Ayes, 24; Absent, 3--Linthicum, Robinson, Thatcher; Excused, 3--Boquist, Heard, Thomsen.

No fiscal impact; no revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 133.005 defines peace officers to include regulatory specialists. Under current law, these specialists include employees of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) who are exercising their authority to conduct inspections or investigations, make arrests or seizures, aid in prosecution for offenses, or issuing citations for violations of laws associated with production, sale, and regulation of alcohol. Regulatory specialists are prohibited from carrying a firearm. Since the legalization of recreational marijuana in Oregon, the OLCC must administer and carry out provisions relating to the regulation of the marijuana industry and a new designation of regulatory specialist is given authority to enforce marijuana-related laws. Marijuana regulatory specialists are also prohibited from carrying firearms.

Senate Bill 808 A adds the new marijuana regulatory specialists exercising authorities under ORS 475B.299 to the definition of peace officers.