

SB 1506 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Prepared By: Mazen Malik, Senior Economist

Meeting Dates: 2/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Increases maximum percentage of tax or fee that governing body of city or county may impose on sale of marijuana items. Requires percentage of newly enacted or increased amount to be transferred to county in which collecting retail establishment is located, provided county is eligible for Oregon Marijuana Account distributions. Applies to marijuana items sold on or after January 1, 2023. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Marijuana revenue (prior to Measure 110 of the 2020 general election) was fully distributed according to the following permanent formula established by Measure 91 (2014):

- 40% to the State School Fund.
- 15% to state police.
- 20 % to mental health treatment or for alcohol and drug abuse prevention, early intervention, and treatment.
- 5% to the health authority for purposes related to alcohol and drug abuse prevention, early intervention, and treatment services.
- 10 % to Counties and
- 10% to Cities.

Measure 110 established the Drug Treatment and Recovery Services Fund (DTRSF) as a new additional use for marijuana revenues. However, in another section of the measure, the amount specified to be distributed using the permanent formula was limited to \$45 million per fiscal year, and the remainder of the marijuana revenue is sent to the DTRSF. That Cap on the formula distribution was not allowed any future increases or inflation adjustment. The reduction in revenue transfers to the cities and counties shares come to about \$25 million each in the 2021-23 biennium. That \$50 million reduction in revenue transfers to local governments will continue to grow in the ensuing biennia as the forecast for marijuana taxes is expected to keep increasing,

Through the work of the 2015 legislative session, HB 2041 changed the method of taxation from a \$35 per ounce (Production/Severance tax) collected by the OLCC to a 17% Point of Sale Tax (POST) collected by DOR. The bill also allowed 3% optional tax for local governments that allowed recreational marijuana sales to commence in 2017. The 3% local taxes in the jurisdictions that impose it brings about \$28.5 million a year in total.

This measure introduces an increase of the allowance of local government to tax local sales to the tune of 10% rather than the current maximum of 3%. Local governments have to act positively to impose the tax in their jurisdictions. Going to 10% will likely increase tax returns to each local govt, but reduce yield per each 1%, if not, then total collections can go up to about \$60 million. This increase however, is not likely to substantially impact overall state demand, since consumers are able to change the purchase location to elsewhere in the state.