

SB 1587 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

Action Date: 02/14/22

Action: Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

Vote: 6-1-0-0

Yeas: 6 - Dembrow, Gelser Blouin, Linthicum, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Thatcher

Nays: 1 - Heard

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

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Meeting Dates: 2/10, 2/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Expands Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Program Fund (the fund) to permit grants awarded by the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) directly to community-based organizations. Allocates \$3.25 million quarterly from the Oregon Marijuana Account to the CJC for deposit into the fund, and \$750,000 quarterly to the CJC for costs incurred in awarding grants to community-based organizations. Extends the fund expiration date from January 2, 2024 to June 30, 2025, and specifies the last payment from the Marijuana Account to the fund will be in the fiscal quarter beginning April 1, 2025. Requires CJC to report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the Judiciary. Increases limit on funds received by the CJC by \$4.5 million for financial assistance to community-based organizations. Provides a one-time transfer from the General Fund of \$25 million to cities and \$25 million to counties, and specifies distribution and eligibility criteria. Effective July 1, 2023 for provisions regarding transfers from the Marijuana Account. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Increased quantities of illegal cannabis are being seized
- Greater need for coordination between multiple jurisdictions and law enforcement agencies
- Workers suffering inhumane living conditions
- Ballot Measure 110 redistribution of Marijuana Account money
- Exploring long-term solutions
- Measure does not create any liens

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Growing and processing cannabis in Oregon is legal for licensed businesses in compliance with state rules and laws, but illegal marijuana operations are straining law enforcement resources and are associated with water theft and inhumane working conditions. In 2018, Senate Bill 1544 established an Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Program Fund to award grants to local law enforcement for addressing illegal marijuana operations. The Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) administers the grants and awards approximately \$1.3 million annually, funded from the Oregon Marijuana Account. The 2018 bill specifies Jan. 2, 2024 as the end date of the program.

Ballot Measure 110 (2020) reduced Marijuana Account distributions to cities and counties by approximately \$22.9 million each for the 2021-2023 biennium, compared to original formula under Ballot Measure 91 (2014).

SB 1587 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Bill 1587 A extends the Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Program Fund to June 30, 2025, permits the CJC to award grants directly to community-based organizations, provides increased quarterly payments from the Marijuana Account to the CJC for costs incurred by awarding grants to law enforcement and community-based organizations, and provides a one-time transfer of \$25 million to eligible cities and \$25 million to eligible counties from the General Fund.