

SB 411 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 2/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows certain prescription drugs and non-prescription drugs to be disposed of at a hospital, medical, and infectious waste incinerator that is registered with the Environmental Protection Agency. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) authorizes collection sites, including hospitals, pharmacies, and law enforcement facilities, to collect and safely dispose of unused or expired medications. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends that drugs be disposed of at a hazardous waste combustor, but when that is not feasible, at municipal waste combustor or at an authorized hospital, medical, and infectious waste incinerator.

Under Oregon Law, “covered drugs” includes prescription and non-prescription drugs, excluding drugs administered in a clinical setting, biologics, and other exceptions (ORS 459A.200). Under Oregon law and consistent with federal standards, covered drugs may be disposed of at a hazardous waste disposal facility or at a municipal solid waste incinerator that is permitted to accept pharmaceutical waste (ORS 459A.224).

Senate Bill 411 allows for covered drugs to be disposed of at a hospital, medical, infectious waste incinerator that is registered with the EPA.