

SB 1553 A -A2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Gillian Fischer

Meeting Dates: 3/4

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Expands the crime of interfering with public transportation to include when a person, while in or on a public transit vehicle or public transit station, knowingly consumes a controlled substance that is not lawfully possessed by the person. Provides that a conviction for interfering with public transportation established by this measure shall be classified as a designated drug-related misdemeanor.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A2 Removes public transit station from the crime of interfering with public transportation as created by this measure.

BACKGROUND:

Under current Oregon law, it is a Class C misdemeanor crime to interfere with public transportation by engaging in a variety of conduct, specified in ORS 166.116. The behavior constituting criminal interference includes entering or remaining unlawfully on public transit vehicles or at public transit stations; interfering with the movement of, or access to, public transit vehicles; engaging in disorderly conduct on public transit vehicles or at public transit stations; and subjecting public transport passengers or employees to offensive physical contact.

The Department of Corrections, under ORS 423.478, is responsible for community-based supervision, sanctions, and services for offenders convicted of certain crimes, including those designated as drug-related misdemeanors by statute. Currently, the crimes listed in statute as designated drug-related misdemeanors involve the unlawful possession of a controlled substance.