SB 556 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Tisha Pascone, LPRO Analyst **Meeting Dates:** 2/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure is a cannabis omnibus that makes several changes to laws regarding marijuana and industrial hemp.

Detailed Summary

- Permits marijuana licensees to use motion detection cameras at the business premises.
- Requires licensees to reconcile inventory at least every seven days.
- Allows licensees to receive industrial hemp endorsement to co-locate production of marijuana and industrial hemp.
- Prohibits the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) from requiring physical tags or identifiers to be attached to plants for tracking purposes.
- Requires that the OLCC's tracking system enable third party platforms to integrate into its system.
- Allows transport manifests to be in digital form, permits editing of the manifest to reflect any changes to the transport, and prohibits the OLCC from specifying transport weight restrictions or how far in advance manifests must be generated for transport.
- Restrains state agencies from disparate treatment of cannabis businesses on the basis of federal law prohibition.
- Provides immunity for state agencies and their employees for performing duties related to licensed or registered cannabis businesses.
- Authorizes the Oregon Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the OLCC, to define the term "industrial hemp" and removes the statutory definition.
- Creates provisional laws allowing the interstate commerce of industrial hemp and marijuana, that would go into effect if permitted under federal law.
- Makes all substantive provisions operative on January 1, 2026, except for the interstate transport law.
- Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Ballot Measure 91 (2014) legalized marijuana production, sale and possession in Oregon, and assigned the Oregon Liquor and Control Commission and the Oregon Department of Agriculture related regulatory powers and duties. Ballot Measure 91 also established a tax on marijuana sales. Sales generated approximately \$114 million in <u>tax</u> <u>revenue</u> in 2024. As the industry and market mature, various updates to the applicable laws are proposed to further facilitate production, processing, wholesaling, and retailing of cannabis and cannabis-derived products.