

SB 1176 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 3/12, 3/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to conduct ongoing advertising and education efforts to inform businesses and the public about the legal obligation for places of public accommodation to accept cash as payment for goods and services. The measure provides that BOLI must continue these efforts until it determines a high rate of compliance exists. The measure takes effect 91 days after adjournment sine die.

Fiscal: Minimal impact

Revenue: Minimal impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Education and outreach are needed to ensure businesses understand their legal obligation to accept cash payment
- Facilities use of cash cards as an alternative to physical cash
- Requirement that cash cards must be provided at no extra cost or processing fee

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under ORS 659A.410, most businesses classified as places of public accommodation must accept U.S. coins and currency as payment, with some exceptions for online transactions, vending machines, and certain industries. Senate Bill 1176 directs the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to educate businesses and the public about this requirement through advertisements and outreach efforts to increase compliance.