SB 557 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Prepared By: Mary Mackie, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires one of the nine commissioners of the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) to hold a license to produce, process, or sell marijuana items.

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

SENATE FLOOR VOTE: Ayes, 23; Nays, 7

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) regulates access to alcohol and cannabis products in the state through education, regulation, and distilled spirits distribution. In 2014, Oregon Measure 91 legalized recreational marijuana for people ages 21 and older in 2014. The measure also put OLCC in charge of regulating the recreational marijuana industry. The OLCC Board of Commissioners is made up of nine members who help set OLCC policy. They are appointed for four-year terms by the Governor, subject to Senate confirmation. Currently, statute requires that there must be one commissioner from each state congressional district, one each from eastern and western Oregon, one representing the public at large, and one from the food and beverage industry. Senate Bill 557 creates an additional requirement that one of the commissioners hold a license to produce, process, or sell marijuana items.