Proposed bill would prohibit use of medical marijuana in workplace

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HB 3052 Clarifies State Medical Marijuana Laws

SALEM, Ore. â€” House Republican Leader Bruce Hanna (R-Roseburg) on Wednesday testified in support of HB 3052, a bipartisan bill he co-sponsored to promote drug-free workplaces in Oregon. If passed into law, HB 3052 would allow employers to prohibit the use of medical marijuana at Oregon work sites.

â€œDrug and alcohol abuse is the one of the leading causes of injury and death in the workplace, nationally and in Oregon,â€• said Rep. Hanna, a small business owner and employer. â€œOregonâ€™s drug test failure rate is 50 percent higher than the national rate, and a large majority of Oregon employers say that on-the-job substance abuse is a significant concern to their business.â€•

HB 3052 clarifies Oregonâ€™s medical marijuana laws to enable employers and independent contractors to prohibit their employees from consuming or possessing marijuana during working hours. Further, the bill stipulates that state medical marijuana laws do not preclude or restrict an employerâ€™s ability to establish or enforce policies to achieve or maintain a drug-free workplace.

â€œThis legislation is needed to protect our stateâ€™s workers and consumers,â€• Rep. Hanna said. "Currently, employers have no way to measure impairment from medical marijuana, where unlike prescription drugs, quantities and dosage are unknown and no physician oversight exists after the medical marijuana card is issued.â€•

Rep. Hanna added, â€œWith passage of HB 3052, employers will finally have the tool they need to maintain a safe workplace.â€•

HB 3052 was heard Wednesday in the House Business and Labor Committee.

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