HB 4013 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 2/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure prohibits the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality from enforcing the provisions of the producer responsibility program applicable to wine packaging until July 1, 2026.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

Detailed summary:

Makes legislative findings. Prohibits the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality from enforcing certain provisions related to wine packaging, including requirements for producers and producer responsibility organizations and producer responsibility program plans. Repeals prohibition on July 1, 2026. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Until 2018, the United States, similar to other nations, sold its plastic and other recyclable waste to China. Large quantities of potentially recyclable trash that the county was receiving was too contaminated to recycle or was not being recycled at all. To address the issue, imports of plastic and other recyclable trash into China were curtailed through its National Sword policy in 2018.

In 2021, Senate Bill 582 established a producer responsibility program for "covered products," which include packaging, printing and writing paper, and food serviceware (ORS 459A.863). The Act also required producers of covered products to join a producer responsibility organization (PRO), on or after July 1, 2025. PROs will work with their members to ensure that covered products collected by a recycling collection service are recycled by responsible end markets, and each PRO must submit a coordination plan to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for approval.

DEQ will require PROs to provide for the recycling of the following covered products:

- Steel and aluminum aerosol packaging;
- Single-use liquid fuel canisters and other pressurized cylinders;
- Aluminum foil and pressed foil products;
- Glass packaging (e.g., bottles and jars);
- Shredded paper;
- Polyethylene film;
- Plastic buckets and other bulky HDPE (#2) or polypropylene (#5) packaging;
- HDPE package handles (such as 6-pack handles);
- Polyethylene and polypropylene lids; and
- Block white expanded polystyrene.

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In 2022, the Legislative Assembly required the payment of a refund value for wine in cans as part of the Bottle Bill program beginning July 1, 2025 (ORS 459A.702). Other types of wine packaging, such as bottles or cardboard boxes, will need to be included in a producer responsibility program plan.