

Lawmakers renew efforts to regulate medical marijuana

By HILLARY BORRUD
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon lawmakers are trying to salvage a proposal to regulate the state's medical marijuana program that caused the committee working on the issue to deadlock Monday night.

House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, is meeting with members of her caucus who are on the committee tasked with implementing the state's new legal recreational pot system to learn their thoughts on amendments to a bill that would cap the size of medical pot grow sites and track movement of cannabis through the supply chain.

The three House Democrats on the committee — committee co-chair Ann Lininger, D-Lake Oswego, Rep. Peter Buckley, D-Ashland, and Rep. Ken Helm, D-Beaverton — Monday voted

against a proposal that had the support of House Republicans and senators from both parties on the committee.

The amendment would have allowed city councils and county commissions to ban medical marijuana dispensaries and processing businesses within 180 days of the bill to regulate medical pot becoming law. It also grandfathered existing medical pot businesses and set out a citizen initiative process for voters to challenge the bans.

House Democrats supported a similar proposal that would have required local governments to refer any ordinance to ban the medical marijuana businesses to voters.

Twenty-six counties and 142 cities in Oregon have adopted moratoriums on medical pot dispensaries, but those expired May 1 under the law that authorized dispensaries. Republicans in both chambers have pushed for the permanent opt-out provisions.

Sen. Jeff Kruse, R-Roseburg, said that behind the scenes, Buckley used his support for the opt-out

referendum proposal to push other lawmakers to delay the effective date of medical marijuana regulations. As currently written in Senate Bill 844, plant limits and other regulations would take effect March 1, 2016.

"He wanted another year of kind of free range on the medical side, before we started counting plants and stuff like that," Kruse said. "And we just weren't willing to go there."

Kruse was still hopeful Tuesday that the joint committee working to implement Measure 91 can agree on a process for cities and counties to ban medical marijuana businesses.

As a backup measure, Kruse and the other committee co-chair Sen. Ginny Burdick, D-Portland, quietly introduced a bill Monday that is essentially a reincarnation of the medical pot regulation bill still stuck in committee. Senate Bill 946 would require the Oregon Health Authority to set up a system to track medical marijuana, from grow sites to patients. It would place a two-year residency requirement on cannabis growers, and prohibit people from growing medical marijuana if they

were convicted of felony drug dealing two or more times, or once within the last five years.

Under the bill, the Oregon Health Authority would also have authority to inspect cannabis gardens maintained by growers who produce pot for other people. Medical marijuana patients who grow their own cannabis would be exempt from inspections.

Medical pot gardens established after Jan. 1, 2015 would be limited to 12 plants in residential zones inside cities and 48 plants per garden in other areas.

The bill would grandfather higher limits for grow sites already registered in the Oregon medical marijuana program on Jan. 1, 2015. They would cap the size of these gardens at 24 plants in city residential zones and 96 plants at all other areas, both rural and urban.

Medical marijuana patients would also be allowed to enter into agreements to assign ownership of a portion of their cannabis to growers. Under Oregon's medical marijuana act, pot belongs to the

patient for whom it is grown. But that has not prevented patients and growers from signing agreements in which the patient receives free or cheap pot in exchange for assigning his or her cultivation rights to the grow site. Growers can then sell the remainder of that patient's marijuana to medical dispensaries or into the black market.

Finally, the legislation includes the proposal supported by House Republicans and senators from both parties Monday night, to allow city councils and county commissions to vote on whether to ban medical marijuana dispensaries and processing businesses within 180 days of the bill becoming law, with the option to challenge bans through a citizen initiative process.

Senate Bill 946 has not yet been assigned to a committee.

As for the joint committee, it is scheduled to meet Monday to address policy proposals related to the July 1 launch of Oregon's legal recreational pot system. Lawmakers are also looking ahead to the issues they hope to discuss next week.

Television > Today's highlights



Ryan Seacrest hosts "American Idol"

Arrow

WPXI 5:00 p.m.

Matt Nable guest stars as Ra's al Ghul, who puts everyone's lives in danger in this season finale. As he sets his plan in motion, Oliver (Stephen Amell) is faced with a difficult decision about his new role and the consequences it may have for Team Arrow.

American Idol

11 KFFX KPTV 8:00 p.m.

Don't miss the big reveal as host Ryan Seacrest announces the winner in this special two-hour season finale. Thousands of hopefuls auditioned for the chance to compete for a lucrative recording contract and the title of "American Idol."

The Goldbergs

42 KVEW KATU 8:30 p.m.

Beverly (Wendi McLendon-Covey) insists on throwing a going-away party for Erica (Hayley Orrantia), who is heading to summer arts school. Beverly goes a little overboard in showing her affection while Murray (Jeff Garlin) struggles to explain how he feels.

Law & Order: Special Victims Unit

25 KNDU KGW 9:00 p.m.

While investigating the disappearance of an 8-year-old boy (Kaeden Ruparel), Det. Amaro (Danny Pino) finds evidence that he recognized his attacker. However, his investigation is hampered by tension between the boy's estranged parents.

CSI: Cyber

19 KEPR KOIN 10:00 p.m.

Avery (Patricia Arquette) gets the opportunity to confront the hacker who leaked her patients' information when she was a psychologist in this season finale. Meanwhile, Krumitz (Charley Koontz) confronts his parents' murderer.

Survivorman: Bigfoot

DISC 10:00 p.m.

Canadian survival expert Les Stroud continues his quest to find the legendary Bigfoot in this new episode. Since his first possible encounter with the elusive beast in 2009, Stroud has trekked across North America in search of the Sasquatch.

Food Fortunes

FOOD 10:00 p.m.

Entrepreneurs try to perk things up with a revolutionary coffee-brewing device in this new episode. The experts also welcome pitches about a high-protein nut butter, a surprising ice cream that runs both hot and cold and some hip chicken nuggets.

House Hunters

HGTV 10:00 p.m.

Tired of paying high rent for their apartment in Washington, D.C., a couple set out to find a place of their own. However, while he wants a classic row home in the heart of the city, she's more interested in a home in the suburbs.

Talk shows

6:00 a.m. 42 KVEW Good Morning Northwest

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7:00 a.m. 19 KEPR KOIN CBS This Morning

7:30 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Today Show Guests include Anna Kendrick; Jean Chatzky; Blythe Danner; Katy Antebellum.

8:00 a.m. 42 KVEW KATU Good Morning America

8:30 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Today Show II Guests include Snoop Dogg.

9:00 a.m. 42 KVEW Live! With Kelly and Michael

9:30 a.m. 42 KVEW Live! With Kelly and Michael

10:00 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Today Show III Guests include Anna Kendrick; Darius Rucker.

10:30 a.m. 42 KVEW KATU The View

11:00 a.m. 42 KVEW KATU The View

11:35 a.m. 11 KFFX The Real

12:00 p.m. 25 KNDU Steve Harvey

12:30 p.m. 42 KVEW KATU Live! With Kelly and Michael

1:00 p.m. 42 KVEW KATU Live! With Kelly and Michael

1:35 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Last Call With Carson Daly

5:30 a.m. 42 KVEW Good Morning Northwest

and his girlfriend accuse his uncle of molesting their two-year-old son.

1:00 p.m. KPTV The Wendy Williams Show

1:30 p.m. 19 KEPR KOIN The Talk

2:00 p.m. 42 KVEW KATU Today Show

2:30 p.m. 42 KVEW KATU Today Show

3:00 p.m. 19 KEPR KOIN Dr. Phil

3:30 p.m. 25 KNDU The Dr. Oz Show

4:00 p.m. 42 KVEW KATU The Ellen DeGeneres Show

4:30 p.m. 42 KVEW KATU The Rachael Ray Show

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Wednesday Morning

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Program. Includes programs like AgDay, The Office, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Good Morning America, and Sesame Street.

AFTERNOON

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Program. Includes programs like Pat. Court, Divorce, Judge Mathis, The People's Court, Judge Judy, and The Doctors.

EVENING

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Program. Includes programs like Modern Family, Two and a Half Men, American Idol, Survivor: World, CSI: Cyber, and Jeopardy!

STATION PEN 6 PM 6:30 7 PM 7:30 8 PM 8:30 9 PM 9:30 10 PM 10:30 11 PM 11:30

Large table listing various TV channels (A&E, AMC, ANPL, CMT, CNBC, CNN, DISC, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FAM, FNC, FOOD, FX, GOLF, GSN, HALL, HGTV, HIST, LIFE, NICK, ROOT, SPIKE, SYFY, TBS, TCM, TLC, TNT, UNI, USA, WE, WGN, ENC, HBO, HBO2, HBO3, MAX, SHOW, STARZ) and their programming schedules.

NIGHT OWL

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Program. Includes programs like AngerM., TMZ, Dish, Raising, King of H., Paid, Access H., Minute, Good Day, WizeBuys, D.Letter., 35 James Corden (N), 35 Insider, 10 Up to the Minute, Tonight, 35 Seth Meyers, 35 C. Daly, 05 Today Show, Mad Money, News, Wake Up Northwest, Kimmel, 35 Nightl., 05 Middle, 35 Paid, 05 ABC World News Now, ABC News, America This Morning, Northwest, Kimmel, 35 Nightl., 05 Paid, 35 Paid, 05 ABC World News Now, News, KATU News This Morning, Newsline, Oregon, Nature, Nova "Lethal Seas", Super Skyscrapers, The Roosevelts: An "In the Arena (1901-1910)", PBS NewsHour, The Roosevelts: An "In the Arena (1901-1910)", Frontline, Pacific Heartbeat, Business, BBC News.