

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/15/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 04/08, 04/15

Vote:

Yeas: 10 - Barreto, Barton, Doherty, Esquivel, Evans, Fagan, Heard, Holvey, Kennemer, Nosse

Nays: 1 - Weidner

Prepared By: Jan Nordlund, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Deletes language prohibiting the promotion or advertisement of outdoor mass gathering without a permit. Clarifies circumstances when permanent development may occur on land where mass outdoor gathering takes place. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Use of social media throughout year to promote and advertise large, annual events
- Definition of outdoor mass gathering
- Whether a permit should be extended for multiple years for annual events

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 1971, the Legislative Assembly found that large, uncontrolled outdoor gatherings for extended periods of time necessitated a need for the establishment of reasonable health and safety rules to regulate such gatherings. A mass outdoor gathering is an anticipated assembly of at least 3,000 people that can be expected to continue for more than 24 consecutive hours and which is held primarily in open spaces and not in permanent structures. Current statute prohibits the organizer of such an event from conducting, advertising or promoting an outdoor mass gathering unless a permit has been issued by the local county. A permit does not entitle the organizer to make any permanent physical alterations to or on the real property.

House Bill 3186 allows an event organizer to promote and advertise an outdoor mass gathering before securing a permit from the county. The measure also clarifies that permanent developments on the property must be made in accordance with applicable land use law.