

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 6 - 1 - 0
Yeas: Buckley, Butler, Gilman, Read, Smith G., Tomei
Nays: Beyer
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Judith Callens, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows Department of Transportation to issue group plate for group that promotes prevention of wildfires. Directs State Forestry Department to seek federal approval to use image of Smokey Bear on group plates.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Group plate requirements
- Familiarity with Smokey Bear image and wildfire prevention message
- Fire suppression costs and resources lost through wildfires
- Revenues used for wildfire prevention programs
- Permission necessary from federal government to use Smokey Bear image

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Department of Transportation provides the opportunity for organizations to create unique vehicle registration plates. Thirty-one group plates currently exist with the purpose of raising funds for a particular organization. HB 2036 creates a new group plate that will contain the image of Smokey Bear along with words that promote the prevention of wildfires. The application fee required by Oregon statute and implementation costs will be paid by the Keep Oregon Green Association. If 1,000 sets of plates are sold within the first 12 months, the application fee will be refunded. HB 2036 sets an \$8 per plate surcharge for each year of registration. The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) collects the surcharge from the customer when the plates are first issued and at time of renewal. Surcharges collected, minus DMV administrative costs, will be deposited into an account designated by the Keep Oregon Green Association. HB 2036 further directs the State Forestry Department to acquire permission to use the Smokey Bear image with any associated costs paid for by the Keep Oregon Green Association.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.