

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued
FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote: 3 - 1 - 1
Yeas: Monnes Anderson, Starr, Metsger
Nays: George L.
Exc.: Deckert
Prepared By: Janet Adkins, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases the service charge that agents of the State Marine Board may impose for issuing boat permits. Authorizes agents to charge up to \$2.50 per transaction for calendar years 2008- 2010, and \$3.75 per transaction for calendar years 2011- 2013. Allows the State Marine Board to revise the fee beginning in 2014, and every three years thereafter, based on the Portland-Salem, Oregon-Washington Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for All Items.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Whether agent fees should be indexed to inflation or set in statute
- Ability of boaters to obtain permits from the agency by mail and online
- Convenience factor of obtaining permit from agents
- Agent retention of the service charge, no additional revenue to the state
- Record keeping required of agents

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The State Marine Board authorizes private agents to issue temporary permits and other transactions for boat owners. The board currently has 124 boat registration agents, including most boat dealers and various sporting goods stores statewide. Agents are required to be trained and to maintain a \$1,000 bond, which costs the agent approximately \$100 annually. The agent service charge was set at \$1.00 by the 1975 Legislature. Agents handle between 100 and 1,000 transactions each year, averaging 490 transactions processed per agent. Boat owners are not required to use the services of agents and may register boats or renew permits by mail or on-line without the service charge. House Bill 2071-A increases Marine Board agent fees to \$2.50 in 2008-2010, to \$3.75 in 2001-2013, and allows the State Marine Board to adjust agent fees for inflation every three years, starting in 2014.