

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
Vote:	7 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Buckley, Butler, Gilman, Read, Smith G., Tomei, Beyer
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Judith Callens, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	1/31, 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Repeals sunset on changes regarding reciprocity for ocean charter vessel and outfitting and guiding licensees of other states. Allows State Marine Board to adopt rules to waive annual fees for persons who possess a current Oregon outfitter and guide registration and who operate in the waters of the Columbia River downstream from the Lewis and Clark Bridge. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Reciprocity agreements for charter vessels and outfitter/guide registration with states of Washington and Idaho
- Columbia River border issues
- Former reciprocity language regarding liability insurance and first aid training
- Lack of state of Washington rules to allow reciprocity for Oregon guides and outfitters on lower Columbia
- Continuing negotiations for operators on the upper reaches of Columbia River

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Allows the State Marine Board to adopt rules to waive the annual fees for persons who possess a current Oregon outfitter and guide registration and who operate in the waters of the Columbia River downstream from the Lewis and Clark Bridge. Adds emergency clause, effective upon passage.

BACKGROUND: In Oregon, guides and charter boats are required to be operated by a U.S. Coast Guard licensed operator, to carry liability insurance and to have proper safety equipment on board. Recently, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife established a permanent administrative rule that failed to recognize that an Oregon outfitter/guide registration issued under ORS 704.020 is equivalent to both an Oregon Charter license issued under ORS 830.435 and a Washington charter license issued under RCW 77.64.150 applicable to reciprocity on the Columbia River. For this reason, registered Oregon outfitters and guides will be required to obtain a Washington registration to operate on the Columbia River. HB 2072 A allows the Oregon State Marine Board to waive annual fees for persons who possess a current Oregon outfitter and guide registration so that these operators will not have to pay fees to both Oregon and Washington.

The current reciprocity language is set to repeal on December 31, 2008. If the sunset stands, the reciprocity agreement will revert back to 1995 language that requires Washington to adopt mandatory liability insurance and first aid training currently not in place. Idaho has adopted those requirements and, thus, the Oregon-Idaho reciprocity agreement is not impacted by the measure. The effect of repeal will be cessation of reciprocity between Oregon and Washington and enforcement of dual registration requirements. HB 2072-A repeals the reciprocity sunset language revisions for ocean charter vessels and outfitting and guiding licensees of other states.

2/15/2007 9:11:00 AM

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