74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 2520 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Sen. George, L.

Senate Committee on Business, Transportation, and Workforce Development

REVENUE: No revenue impact **FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: George L., Monnes Anderson, Starr, Metsger

Nays: 0 Exc.: Deckert

Prepared By: Janet Adkins, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Amends the definition of Class II all-terrain vehicle (ATV) to include motor vehicles being operated on a highway for agricultural purposes, including transportation between ranching or farming headquarters, agricultural fields or pastures. Requires the person operating the ATV on a highway for such purposes to hold a valid driver's license, to comply with posted speed limits, and to drive as close as possible to the right-hand edge of the highway. Requires the ATV to be equipped with a lighted headlight and taillight and to display a slow-moving vehicle emblem. Specifies that violation of the requirements for use of an ATV on a state highway for agricultural purposes is designated a Class D traffic violation.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Use of Class II ATVs for agricultural purposes
- Current exemption for the smaller Class I ATV use on highways

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The 2001 Legislative Assembly authorized the use of Class I all-terrain vehicles (ATV) on state highways for agricultural purposes. Class I ATVs are motorized, off-highway recreational vehicles 50 inches or less in width with a dry weight of 800 pounds or less. Class II ATVs are heavier and are not currently allowed on highways because they do not have all the equipment required of "street-legal" vehicles and were not included in the 2001 legislation allowing limited highway use. Because of their size and weight, Class II ATVs are increasingly popular for on-farm uses, including moving nursery plants, taking feed to livestock, and hauling fruit bins. House Bill 2520 authorizes the use of Class II ATVs on state highways for agricultural purposes, so long as the ATV is operated by a licensed driver and is equipped with lights and a slow-moving vehicle sign.