

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote: 3 - 0 - 2
Yeas: George L., Monnes Anderson, Metsger
Nays: 0
Exc.: Deckert, Starr
Prepared By: Janet Adkins, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 5/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows the Department of Transportation to include questions on fuel efficient driving techniques in examination for driver license.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Process for including new information in drivers manual
- Statutory requirements and rules about questions generated for drivers test
- Examples of fuel efficient driving techniques
- Purpose of the driving exam, potential for dilution of safety-related questions

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 2704-A encourages the Department of Transportation to include information on fuel efficient driving techniques in the next update of the Oregon Driver Manual by authorizing the agency to include related questions on the driver written exam. The department uses a pool of 250 questions for the 35-question exam. The fuel efficient driving questions could become part of the pool, but would not appear on each exam.

Fuel efficient driving techniques include observing speed limits, avoiding excessive idling, removing excess weight from a vehicle, using cruise control, appropriately using overdrive gears, and doing regular maintenance. Estimates indicate that each five miles per hour over 60 miles per hour driving is like paying 20 cents more per gallon of gas.