

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Nathanson  
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Westlund

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

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Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed A-Engrossed

Vote: 13 – 7 – 2

House – Yeas: D. Edwards, Galizio, Jenson, Nathanson, Nolan, Shields  
– Nays: Garrard, Hanna, Morgan  
– Exc:

Senate – Yeas: Bates, Brown, Courtney, Devlin, Johnson, Schrader, Westlund  
– Nays: Morse, Nelson, Verger, Whitsett  
– Exc: Gordly, Winters

Prepared By: Tim Walker, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: 6/22/07

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** This bill would allow a weighmaster or motor carrier enforcement officer to use warning lights or other signal for the purpose of stopping a driver of a commercial motor vehicle.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Legal Authority
- Safety issues
- How will the pilot project be implemented
- Authority of Motor Carrier Enforcement Officers to cite for other traffic violations

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Adds the requirement for training and adds a sunset provision.

**BACKGROUND:** House Bill 3273 amends statute to allow weighmasters and motor carrier enforcement officers (MCEOs) to stop and detain vehicles for the purposes of enforcing weight and measure requirements. Weighmasters and MCEOs would be authorized to use warning lights and other signals in order to stop vehicles. HB 3273 would become effective on January 1, 2008.

Current law allows MCEOs to exercise the same authority as police officers to enforce weight and measure requirements. However, MCEOs are not police officers nor do they have the training and equipment provided to police officers. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has directed that its MCEOs shall not stop and detain vehicles on the highway based on legal analysis and advice from Department of Justice.