

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Be Adopted as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Deckert, George L., Monnes Anderson, Starr, Metsger
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Janet Adkins, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges Congress to support the establishment of the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Congressional bills
- Different sites of significance
- Tourism benefits of trail endorsement and promotion

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Clarifies the name of the study that recommended that Congress establish the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail. Adds a whereas clause regarding the finding of the Willamette Meteorite near West Linn in 1902.

BACKGROUND: At the end of the last Ice Age some 12,000 to 17,000 years ago, a series of cataclysmic floods occurred in what is now the northwestern region of the United States. After passing through the Columbia River Gorge, the flood backed up into Oregon's Willamette Valley, covering the current site of Portland with 300 feet of water and reaching as far south as Eugene. The floods are responsible for shaping many of Oregon's unique landscape features, from Juniper Canyon in the northeast to the cities of Astoria and Warrenton on the Pacific Coast.

Both Houses of Congress are currently considering identical bills to establish an Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail. Similar legislation cleared the U.S. Senate last year but died when the session ended before differences with the version passed by the House of Representatives could be resolved. HJM 6-A declares that the establishment of a trail will benefit local economies and requests congressional support for its establishment.