

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
Vote:	6 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Buckley, Butler, Gilman, Read, Tomei, Beyer
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Smith G.
Prepared By:	Judith Callens, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Repeals the statutory list of qualifications for state-employed railroad inspectors.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Support of the United Transportation Union (conductors, brakemen, engineers)
- Statutory qualification list does not reflect current experience needed by railroad inspectors

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 824.028 lists specific requirements for railroad inspectors employed by the Department of Transportation. The list includes five years of particular rail experience some of which can be fulfilled with college work in engineering. These requirements are outdated and do not meet the minimum years or type of experience required by the Federal Railroad Administration. They also do not incorporate the different requirements necessary for different disciplines such as employee safety, track safety, or hazardous materials. The department considers it unnecessary for their employee qualifications to be in statute.