

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 7 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bentz, Buckley, Gilman, Read, Smith G., Tomei, Beyer

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/5, 2/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs the Oregon Department of Transportation, upon request, to erect and maintain roadside memorial signs for pedestrians or bicyclists killed in motor vehicle accidents where the motorist was cited and convicted of an offense related to the accident. Stipulates that the department will maintain the sign for three years, and allows the department to require a fee from the applicant to cover the cost of erecting and maintaining the sign.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Similar legislation introduced previously
- Cost of sign creation and maintenance
- No effect on city and county roads

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon adopted a national program in 1995 known as the Impaired Driving Victim Memorial Signing Program. That program installs signs on state highways at locations where a fatal car accident resulted from a driver under the influence of intoxicants.

House Bill 3623 creates a signage program similar to the one described above for pedestrians or bicyclists who die as a result of accidents involving a motorist who is cited and convicted of an offense related to the accident. Upon receipt of an application from an immediate family member of the victim, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) would erect the sign and maintain it for a period of three years. The application requirements include payment of a fee to provide for the costs of erecting and maintaining the sign. The measure provides ODOT with the authority to determine regulations such as the size, design and location for the sign program. It does not allow ODOT to alter the requirement that the sign include the name of the victim.