

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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Action: Do Pass  
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0  
Yeas: Bonamici, Kruse, Metsger, Morse, Hass  
Nays: 0  
Exc.: 0  
Prepared By: Dana Richardson, Administrator  
Meeting Dates: 4/29

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires person operating boat and any passengers on any section of waters rated class III or higher to wear properly secured personal flotation device.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Definition of boat
- Presence of guides
- Issuing of citations
- Importance of education and awareness of changing river conditions
- Type of violation

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** House Bill 2079 modifies ORS 830.215, mandating all passengers to wear a personal flotation device on any section of waters rated class III or higher. Current law mandates the use of such devices by boat guides in waters rated class III or higher.

Currently, under ORS 830.215, all Oregon boats must carry at least one U.S. Coast Guard-approved Type I, II, or III personal flotation device in good and serviceable condition for each person on board. Children age 12 years and under must wear a United States Coast Guard-approved life jacket at all times.