

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to Ways and Means
by Prior Reference

Vote: 7 - 1 - 0

Yeas: Boone, Esquivel, Freeman, Komp, Matthews, Riley, Cowan

Nays: Weidner

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: David Molina, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/24, 3/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Appropriates non-General funds for Oregon territorial sea mapping project at Oregon State University. Funding source is derived from the settlement of territorial sea damages in *New Carissa* Trespass case (*State vs. Taiheiyō Kaiun Co., Ltd.*). Provides leverage from federal funds. Allocates \$1,289,000 to Oregon State University for the Oregon territorial sea mapping project from the Department of State Lands 2009-2011 budget proposal. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2009.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Unreliable seafloor information provides greatest challenge to tsunami inundation modeling
- The need for a more intimate understanding of the seafloor landscape and how it is changing over time
- Funds to improve nautical charts appropriate given the source of funding
- Support from coastal, state and national government, academia, and concerned citizens

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Allocates \$1,289,000 to Oregon State University for the Oregon territorial sea mapping project from the Department of State Lands 2009-2011 budget proposal.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon territorial sea mapping project is a priority of the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health, with a goal of 100 percent mapping of shelf waters by 2020. Areas along the west coast presently are charted based on 19th and 20th centuries technologies, which provides challenges to understanding marine and habitat science, coastal erosion and rising sea levels, navigation and safe commerce, tsunami inundation forecasting, and wave energy development. Currently, Oregon's territorial sea is in the region of five percent mapped. The area of focus extends three nautical miles from the coast and comprises approximately 950 square nautical miles. By comparison Washington is 13 percent mapped, California 65 percent, and the entire eastern coast 100 percent sea mapped.

Scientists at Oregon State University (OSU) have indicated that updated seafloor mapping will provide a baseline for geohazard mitigation, disaster preparedness planning, alternative energy development, marine fisheries and ecosystem management. The OSU Active Tectonics and Seafloor Mapping Laboratory has been providing acquisition, research and execution for this project on a grant-by-grant basis and estimates that 33-40 percent of the seafloor can be mapped with the appropriated funds.