

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. Jenson
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Nelson

Revenue: Revenue statement issued

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 18 – 2 – 2

House

Yeas: Buckley, C. Edwards, D. Edwards, Galizio, Garrard, Gilman, Jenson, Kotek, Nathanson, Richardson, Shields, G. Smith

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Carter, Monroe, Nelson, Verger, Walker

Nays: Girod, Whitsett

Exc: Johnson, Winters

Prepared By: Susie Jordan, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: 6/22, 6/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Department of State Lands (DSL) to apply for and receive any private or federal grant, loans or other funds available for purpose of conducting studies related to department work and coordinating state and federal permitting issues related to removal and fill. Authorizes DSL to establish by rule volume-based fee for commercial removal of sand and gravel from waters of the state for use in administering provisions of removal fill law. Authorizes DSL to use Common School Funds for studies necessary for fill and removal program. Directs DSL, after consultation with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), to study feasibility of creating single permit for removal of sand and gravel from waters of state. Directs DSL to submit report on study status to interim legislative committee on or before March 1, 2010. Directs DSL to submit a final report on study to interim legislative committee on or before November 1, 2010.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Studies needed to assess gravel recruitment in river systems
- Availability of federal funds to support studies

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon's Removal-Fill Law (ORS 196.795 to 196.990) requires people who plan to remove or fill material in waters of the state to obtain a permit from the DSL. DSL currently has 47 active commercial gravel mining permits throughout the state for operations below ordinary high water. The United States Army Corps of Engineers and the DEQ also permit some, but not all, of these operations. The DOGAMI has regulatory jurisdiction over aggregate mining in floodplains and uplands.

House Bill 2929A authorizes DSL to accept funds from a variety of sources and to use Common School funds to conduct studies related to removal and fill. The measure also directs DSL to work with DEQ and DOGAMI to study the feasibility of creating a single permit for removal of sand and gravel from state waters.