

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	George, Girod, Rosenbaum, Bonamici
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Burdick
Prepared By:	Lori Brocker, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Eliminates voluntary certification program for associations or organizations that represent entities or persons who sell, provide, or arrange travel and accommodations in Oregon. Transfers accumulated funds received from affected entities to General Fund.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of certification program
- Participation in certification program
- Amount of transferred funds

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon has regulated the travel industry in a variety of ways since the late 1980's. At one time, there was a mandatory registration system for most "sellers of travel". The mandatory system was replaced by a voluntary certification program under ORS 646A.010 – ORS 646A.020. One trade association, the Oregon American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA), requested and was granted certification in the more than eight years the voluntary program has been in effect. ASTA relinquished its certification in May, 2008. No association of "sellers of travel" currently participates in the voluntary certification program. Funds accumulated under the program would be transferred to the General Fund.