75th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2009 Regular Session MEASURE: SB 217 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Sen. Girod

Senate Committee on Consumer Protection and Public Affairs

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed, and Rescind the Subsequent Referral to the Joint

Committee on Ways and Means

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Burdick, George, Girod, Rosenbaum, Bonamici

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Lori Brocker, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 3/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows Historic Preservation Revolving Loan Fund (Fund) to be used for promoting cultural preservation public education. Requires that moneys collected in enforcement of laws protecting cultural resources be placed in Fund. Allows State Historic Preservation Officer to seek or accept gifts, grants or donations to Fund and provides that those gifts, grants or donations shall be paid into Fund. Authorizes State Historic Preservation Officer to establish criteria and procedures to pay Attorney General for expenses incurred in enforcement of cultural resource protection laws. Permits Fund to be used for costs of enforcement of cultural resource protection laws. Declares emergency; effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current law protecting cultural resources
- Native American cultural resources
- Native American burial sites
- Destruction of historic sites and artifacts
- Extent of tribal lands

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Deletes provision appropriating moneys from the General Fund.

BACKGROUND: The State Historic Preservation Officer oversees the preservation of historic property in Oregon. Some historic properties, such as Native American burial sites and archaeological sites, are subject to frequent looting and vandalism. While looting and vandalism of historic property is subject to criminal or civil laws, and current law specifically authorizes the Attorney General to protect historic property, funding for enforcement has never been designated. Senate Bill 217A provides a funding mechanism for enforcement through the Historic Preservation Revolving Loan Fund (Fund). Senate Bill 217A also allows the Fund to be used for public education about cultural resources and preservation.