

Senate Bill 681

Sponsored by Senator BOQUIST; Senators MORSE, SCHRADER, WINTERS, Representatives BERGER, CLEM, ESQUIVEL, GARRARD, KENNEMER, KOMP, KRIEGER, OLSON, SPRENGER, THATCHER, THOMPSON, WEIDNER, WHISNANT, WINGARD (at the request of WRCM Group)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Allows State Parks and Recreation Department to enter into agreement with Willamette River Channel Maintenance Group for performance of maintenance activities needed to improve river navigability and safety, to improve marine access to public parks, landings and other accesses and to encourage tourism and transportation. Allows group to contract with other persons or public bodies to perform maintenance activities.

Authorizes department to allocate moneys from State Parks and Recreation Department Fund for performance of maintenance activities.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to maintenance of the Willamette River.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "Willamette River Channel Maintenance Group" means the intergovernmental entity established under ORS chapter 190 by Linn County, Polk County, Yamhill County and other public bodies, as defined in ORS 174.109.

(2) The Legislative Assembly finds that the Willamette River between river mile 50 and river mile 187 has not been maintained since 1976. However, an analysis of the benefits of maintenance of the Willamette River between river mile 50 and river mile 165 was authorized by section 1, chapter 1068, Oregon Laws 1999.

(3) The State Parks and Recreation Department may enter into an agreement with the Willamette River Channel Maintenance Group for maintenance on the Willamette River from river mile 50 to river mile 187 for the purposes of improving river navigability and safety, improving marine access to public parks, landings and other accesses and encouraging tourism and transportation.

(4) In addition to any powers of the Willamette River Channel Maintenance Group established under the intergovernmental agreement creating the group, the group may contract with any person or public body, as defined in ORS 174.109, to perform the maintenance activities described in subsection (3) of this section. The group shall ensure that any person or public body engaged in these activities obtains all required local, state and federal authorizations, permits or approvals.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding ORS 390.134, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, the State Parks and Recreation Department may allocate up to \$3 million from the State Parks and Recreation Department Fund to the Willamette River Channel Maintenance Group for the purpose of performing maintenance activities described in section 1 of this 2009 Act.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.