FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2011 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Requires Department of Environmental Quality to collect fees for trips by vessels regulated under ballast water statutes.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Summary of Expenditure Impact: See Analysis

Summary of Revenue Impact:

	2011-13 Biennium	2013-15 Biennium
Other Funds	\$157,500	\$210,000

Local Government Mandate:

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis:

The measure directs the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to collect a fee of \$70 for each trip, as it is defined by the measure, to vessels regulated under ballast water statutes. The measure allows the Department to assess late charges if the fee is not received and to establish by rule the procedures for the payment of the fees. The measure establishes the Ballast Water Fund, separate and distinct from the General Fund, for the fees collected and continuously appropriates the moneys in the fund to the Department to be used for specific purposes defined by the measure. Interest earned is credited back to the fund. The measure is effective January 1, 2012.

The Department estimates approximately 1,500 vessels arrive in a typical year. The Department would generate approximately \$157,500 in revenue for 2011-13 and approximately \$210,000 in 2013-15. The Department will partner with a shipping industry support organization that currently collects other fees to collect the fees included in the measure.

The additional revenue from this measure is used to fund a policy package in the agency's requested budget to establish a permanent half-time Natural Resource Specialist 2 position that will allow the Department to increase ballast water program activity like inspections, screening, and monitoring. The Department estimates \$60,026 in personal services costs for the half-time position and \$40,177 in services and supplies in 2011-13. Additionally, the Governor's Recommended Budget uses \$25,000 of the revenue from this measure to fund ballast water program costs that were previously funded with General Fund in 2011-13. In 2013-15, the Department plans to shift additional ballast water program costs currently funded by General Fund onto the Other Funds revenue from this measure.