

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 7 - 1 - 0
Yeas: Bailey, Bentz, Boone, Krieger, Thompson, Witt, Gilliam
Nays: Cannon
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Beth Herzog, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 2/15, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Provides that hydroelectric projects exempted from federal regulation and located within existing artificial delivery systems are not subject to additional requirements for fish screens, bypass devices or fish passages if projects do not create change in stream conditions that adversely affects fish. Limits additional requirements for fish screens, by-pass devices or fish passages for other hydroelectric projects exempted from federal regulation and located within existing artificial delivery systems. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Benefits of hydroelectric power
- Extent of regulation of hydroelectric projects by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS 509.585 requires, with certain exceptions, any person owning or operating an artificial obstruction of waters that are inhabited, or historically inhabited, by native migratory fish to provide a passage for those fish. House Bill 2873 would establish that a hydroelectric project exempted from federal regulation and located within an existing artificial delivery system would not be subject to additional requirements for fish screens, bypass devices or fish passages if the project does not create a change in stream conditions that adversely affects fish.