

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 7 - 0 - 1
Yeas: Bailey, Bentz, Boone, Krieger, Witt, Cannon, Gilliam
Nays: 0
Exc.: Thompson
Prepared By: Liz Puskar, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 3/1, 3/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Extends Oregon Adopt-A-River program to include removal of certain invasive species, which will be identified in list created by State Marine Board. Requires State Marine Board to provide volunteer groups with instructions for removal of invasive species and best management practices regarding disposal and equipment decontamination.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Damage caused by invasive species
- Cost-effectiveness of solution proposed by House Bill 3157
- Potential to build awareness of issues and solutions associated with invasive species
- Success of similar program in connection with Adopt-A-Highway program
- 18,000 hours logged in 2010 by volunteers removing litter from Oregon's rivers

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: "Invasive species" are plants, animals, and microbes not native to a region which, when introduced, outcompete native species for available resources, reproduce prolifically, and dominate regions and ecosystems. Because they often arrive in new areas unaccompanied by their native predators, invasive species can be difficult to control. Left unchecked, many invasives can transform entire ecosystems, as native species and habitats disappear. In 2009, the Legislature passed a bill similar to House Bill 3157 with regard to the Oregon Adopt-A-Highway program (House Bill 2424).