

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – Senate: Sen. Dingfelder

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 20 – 5 – 0

House

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Komp, Kotek, McLane, Nathanson, Nolan, Thatcher, Whisnant

Nays: Freeman, Garrard, Richardson, G. Smith

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Thomsen, Verger, Whitsett, Winters

Nays: Girod

Exc:

Prepared By: Susie Jordan, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 10, 2011

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates a 14-member Task Force on Oregon Heritage Vitality. Directs the task force to review public funding systems of state and local organizations, museums, and historical societies related to Oregon's cultural heritage. Directs the task force to assess private funding of local historical fund operations and museums. Directs the task force to evaluate statutes and rules related to local historical funds and museums. Directs the task force to recommend programs and projects to encourage coordinated efforts to improve heritage tourism, history education, historic preservation, and related economic development. Directs the Parks and Recreation Department to provide staff support. Directs the task force to submit a report to the appropriate committee of the Legislative Assembly by October 1, 2012. Sunsets the task force on February 14, 2013. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- No discussion

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Within the State Parks and Recreation Department is the Heritage Programs Division. The division supports heritage, cultural, and historic preservation activities in Oregon through several programs, services, and commissions, including the Oregon Heritage Commission. The Oregon Heritage Commission is designated in statute as the primary agency for the coordination of heritage activities and it is directed to coordinate its activities with public and private heritage organizations. The commission is required to prepare and adopt an Oregon Heritage Plan to address coordination for the identification, care, restoration and interpretation of heritage resources. The commission is also responsible for increasing efficiency and avoiding duplication among the various interest groups.

Also within the Heritage Programs Division is the State Historic Preservation Office. In statute, the office is directed to prepare and implement a comprehensive statewide historic preservation plan to assist local governments in developing their programs. The department director serves as the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Membership of the proposed Task Force on Oregon Heritage Vitality would include one member from the Senate, one member from the House of Representatives, two public members, and one representative from each of the following: Oregon Heritage Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer, Association of Oregon Counties, League of Oregon Cities, Oregon Historical Society, Oregon Cultural Trust, Oregon Museums Association, Oregon Tourism Commission, a heritage organization, and an Indian tribe.