

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on General Government, Consumer and Small Business Protection

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued**

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	3 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	Bonamici, Monroe, Shields
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Boquist, George
Prepared By:	Patrick Brennan, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/9, 5/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes the Task Force on Oregon Heritage Vitality to study public funding of historical societies and other organizations related to Oregon's cultural heritage. Sunsets Task Force on February 4, 2013. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Several cultural heritage institutions in danger of closing
- Duties of the Task Force

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, curation, 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 Task Force on Oregon Heritage Vitality includes 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.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.