

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER: Sen. Bonamici

Senate Committee on General Government, Consumer and Small Business Protection

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: No fiscal impact**

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bonamici, Boquist, George, Monroe, Shields
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Patrick Brennan, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Replaces the member of the Oregon Heritage Commission who is designated by the Oregon Business Development Department with a member appointed by the Oregon Tourism Commission. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Background on Oregon Heritage Commission
- Annual budget for Oregon Heritage Commission
- Historical connection between Oregon Heritage Commission and tourism

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Heritage Commission consists of nine members appointed by the Governor and is, according to the Commission’s website, granted broad responsibilities as a “connector and catalyst for hundreds of organizations and thousands of Oregonians devoted to preserving and interpreting Oregon’s heritage resources.” The Commission is housed within the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Its programs include the Heritage and Museum grant programs, technical assistance for heritage organizations, and an annual conference. The Commission also makes annual heritage excellence awards and designates Oregon Heritage Traditions and Statewide Celebrations.

In addition to its nine voting members, the Oregon Heritage Commission is also served by eight ex-officio members. Ex-officio members include designees of the Department of Land Conservation and Development, the State Library, the State Board of Higher Education, the Oregon Business Development Department, and the Department of Education; also serving as ex-officio members are the executive director of the Oregon Historical Society, the State Archivist, and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Senate Bill 125 renames the ex-officio members of the Oregon Heritage Commission as “advisory” members. In addition, the measure replaces the Oregon Business Development Department’s designee with a designee of the Oregon Tourism Commission, and specifies that the executive director of the Oregon Historical Society, the State Archivist, and the State Historic Preservation Officer may send a designee in their stead to serve on the Commission. The measure stipulates that the changes to the membership apply only as vacancies occur.