

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 6 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Edwards, Girod, Monroe, Starr, Thomsen, Beyer
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 3/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes limitation on width of rearview mirrors used on vehicles.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Makes Oregon statute consistent with national standards

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Current law limits the maximum allowable width of rearview side mirrors to no more than five inches from each side of the vehicle in excess of the maximum allowable vehicle width outlined in ORS 818.080. The maximum allowable width for all vehicles is eight feet, six inches, meaning that the maximum width from tip to tip of rearview mirrors is nine feet, four inches. However, enforcement officers for the Motor Carrier Transportation Division of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) report that they are seeing trucks built with side mounted rearview mirrors that extend as much as 13 inches from the side of the vehicle, thus putting them in violation of the statute.

Senate Bill 535 eliminates the maximum allowable mirror width, but makes no change to the maximum allowable vehicle width. This change makes Oregon statute consistent with federal truck size and weight regulations (23 CFR 658.16), which specify that rear view mirrors are excluded from the measured width of a commercial motor vehicle.