

**77TH OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
2013 REGULAR SESSION  
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY  
HOUSE REVENUE COMMITTEE**

**MEASURE: SB 547 - A  
CARRIER: Rep. Gelser**

**REVENUE: No Revenue Impact  
FISCAL: No Fiscal Impact**

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**Action:** Do Pass  
**Vote:** 8-0-1  
**Yeas:** Bentz, Berger, Conger, Davis, Gelser, Read, Vega Pederson, Barnhart  
**Nays:** 0  
**Exc.:** Bailey

**Prepared By:** Mazen Malik, Economist  
**Meeting Dates:** 5/20, 05/22

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**WHAT THE BILL DOES:** Authorizes cities and counties to incur exempt bonded indebtedness to finance capital costs.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- The constitutional change
- Language needed
- Use of bond proceeds and allowable uses.

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:** No amendment

**BACKGROUND:**

In May of 2010, the Oregon voters amended the Oregon Constitution to allow for local governments to issue general obligation bonds for "capital costs." Previously, all general obligation bond proceeds had to be used for "capital construction" or "capital improvements" as defined in Article XI, Section 11(13). Those terms were difficult for local governments to figure out how to adhere to the law when spending general obligation bond proceeds.

The Municipal Debt Advisory Commission (MDAC) proposes to update the statutory references of "capital construction" and "capital improvements" to include the term "capital costs" to mirror the Constitution. ORS 287A has many references to "capital construction" and "capital improvements" but now should include "capital costs."

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