

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the B-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 4 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Beyer, Ferrioli, Starr, Rosenbaum

Nays: 0

Exc.: Burdick

Prepared By: Lori Brocker, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 6/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Secretary of State to conduct performance audit of Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (TriMet). Specifies that audit shall examine, report and make recommendations regarding any significant issues identified by audit in relation to governance of TriMet, including: immediate and long-term operational structure, practices and functions, transparency of operations, immediate and long-term fiscal condition, and compliance with state and federal laws generally. Directs Secretary of State to submit audit to Legislative Assembly on or before January 30, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Audit would help TriMet remain viable
- Unfunded liability within TriMet's employee retirement program

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District (TriMet) is a public agency that operates the mass transit system throughout the Portland metropolitan region. Created in 1969 by the Legislative Assembly, TriMet is governed by a seven-member board of directors appointed by the Governor. The district has its own boundary, which currently encompasses portions of the counties of Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas. It extends from Troutdale to Forest Grove and from Sauvie Island to Oregon City. TriMet operates the bus system that includes 625 buses on 79 routes, as well as paratransit service that includes 253 LIFT buses and 15 vans to provide door-to-door as part of its paratransit service throughout the region. Since 1986, TriMet has operated the Metropolitan Area Express (MAX) light rail system, which now encompasses 52 miles on four lines, extending from Beaverton to Hillsboro (since 1998), to the Portland International Airport (2001), the Portland Expo Center (2004), and Clackamas Town Center (2009).

House Bill 3316B requires that the Secretary of State conduct a performance audit of TriMet and report findings of the audit to the Legislative Assembly on or before January 1, 2014.