

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Rules

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Baertschiger Jr, Burdick, Close, Prozanski, Roblan

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/11, 2/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges President and Congress to reform federal management of revested Oregon and California (O&C) Railroad grant lands to provide certainty and predictability to Oregon counties in which O&C lands are located.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Pending Congressional legislation
- Whereas statements in memorial
- History of O&C lands

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In 1937, the Oregon and California (O&C) Revested Lands Sustained Yield Management Act (43 U.S. Code §1181) designated a portion of O&C lands to be used for timber production, distributing a portion of harvest receipts to counties to support public services. In 1990, litigation resulted in an injunction barring timber harvests in northern spotted owl habitat, which led to a decline in payments to counties from federal timber harvests. The Northwest Forest Plan included a safety net program for counties starting in 1994. In 2000, Congress authorized the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act to provide funding to 33 of Oregon's 36 counties, including the O&C counties, to offset the financial loss incurred. On October 2, 2013, Congress passed a one year reauthorization of the Act. Senate Joint Memorial 201 urges the President and Congress to reform federal management of O&C lands.