

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 7 - 0 - 2

Yeas: Esquivel, Frederick, Krieger, Reardon, Unger, Whitsett, Witt

Nays: 0

Exc.: Clem, Thompson

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Adds two legislators as non-voting members of Oregon Science Trust. Directs President of Senate to appoint one Senator and Speaker of House to appoint one Representative. Specifies legislative members may act only in advisory capacity. Authorizes non-legislative members to be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred in performance of duties. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of Task Force on Nearshore Research
- Role of Ocean Science Trust
- Payment of expenses to support members

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 3106 (2009) created the Oregon Task Force on Nearshore Research to recommend long-term funding and coordination strategies for implementing the nearshore priorities of the state. The Task Force recommended creating a trust to provide a funding mechanism to support the implementation of the Nearshore Strategic Plan and identified research and monitoring needs. Senate Bill 737 (2013) established the Oregon Ocean Science Trust to promote ocean and coastal resource research and monitoring. The Trust is composed of five members appointed by the State Land Board and is to report biennially on its progress to the Legislature.

Senate Bill 1545 would add two legislators to the Oregon Ocean Science Trust and allow reimbursement of specified travel and other expenses for non-legislative members.