

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Transportation and Economic Development

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 04/20/15

Action: Without Recommendation As To Passage And Be Referred To Rules.

Meeting Dates: 04/20

Vote:

Yeas: 6 - Bentz, Davis, Hack, Lively, McKeown, McLain

Exc: 1 - Gorsek

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Department of Transportation to study the addition of express lanes to certain highways in Oregon. Sunsets January 2, 2018.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Referral of measure to House Rules Committee for further consideration

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The term “express lane” refers to a lane closed to the median and physically separated from other lanes of traffic moving in the same direction, and generally has fewer entrances and exits than the outer lanes. The purpose of an express lane is for vehicles that are traveling longer distances to proceed in a relatively uninterrupted manner.

House Bill 2827 directs ODOT to study the potential impact of the addition of express lanes to the following highways:

- U.S. Highway 26 between Portland and Hillsboro
- Oregon Route 217 between Interstate 5 and U.S. 26
- Interstate 5 between Oregon Route 217 and Interstate 405

The report is to detail the effect of express lanes on traffic flow, the feasibility of the addition of express lanes and any recommendations for additional lanes to the highways described above.