

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

Action Date: 04/20/15

Action: Do Pass With Amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Meeting Dates: 04/15, 04/20

Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Beyer, Girod, Monroe, Riley

Nays: 1 - Thomsen

Prepared By: James LaBar, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits Oregon Department of Transportation to issue vehicle registration plates from regular series for use on county-owned vehicle rather than plates from specially designed government series. Prohibits the use of one license plate for the cost of another plate. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Public safety concerns for elected officials
- Cost differential for different license plate types available in Oregon

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Prohibits the use of one license plate (i.e. tree plate, \$86) for the cost of another plate (i.e. government plate, \$3).

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 948A permits the Department of Transportation to issue regular series vehicle registration plates for use on county-owned vehicles rather than plates from specifically designed government series. To replace a plate, the county must apply to the Department, after which a plate may be issued if proper registration and fee are submitted.

Senate Bill 948A is important for the public safety of elected county officials. For example, in Umatilla County, many officials issued a county-owned vehicle have license plates that distinguish them as such. In order to protect individuals from being followed, harassed, or otherwise sought out for inappropriate reasons, SB 948A permits those individuals to have regular plates, so as to not set their vehicle apart from others.