

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

Action Date: 04/27/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 04/27

Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Beyer, Girod, Monroe, Riley

Exc: 1 - Thomsen

Prepared By: James LaBar, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies the authority of the Department of Transportation to issue variance permits to operate self-loading log trucks. Authorizes the Department to issue a refund for payment of fuel taxes if a person pays both a fuel tax and a road assessment fee.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Collapses two permits into one permit
- Technical changes to current statute

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Road authorities and their designees are authorized to issue variance permits for vehicles and vehicle combinations that would otherwise violate statutes related to: vehicle size and/or weight limits; posted road size and/or weight limits; towing safety requirements; use of devices without wheels; use of metal objects on tires; operation without pneumatic tires; misuse of special left turn lanes or center lanes on three-lane roads; operation on bicycle trails; or failure to drive within a lane. The Oregon Department of Transportation is also authorized to issue continuous operation variance permits. ORS 818.210 outlines limits to length, weight and number of axles for such vehicles; House Bill 2259 modifies these tables to allow for loads greater than 80,000 pounds, lengths up to 78 feet between first and last axle, and weights up to 105,000 pounds.