

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/06/15

Action: Do Pass The A-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 05/06

Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Girod, Monroe, Riley, Thomsen

Exc: 1 - Beyer

Prepared By: James LaBar, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes rural ports to acquire and operate telecommunications and infrastructure facilities.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Changing landscape for ports and their ability to adapt to new opportunities

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Chapter 777 of the Oregon Revised Statutes outlines the general authority and powers of Oregon's system of 23 public ports; Chapter 778 outlines additional statutory guidelines for the Port of Portland. Oregon ports are operated by locally-elected boards of commissioners, with the exception of the Port of Portland and International Port of Coos Bay, whose boards are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. They are authorized to generate income through bonding, user fees, taxation and other sources. Currently, ORS 777 does not authorize Oregon ports to acquire, own and operate telecommunications infrastructure. House Bill 3104A expands the statutory authority of rural ports to include telecommunications.