

# House Bill 2740

Sponsored by Representative READ (Pre-session filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Changes name of Multimodal Transportation Fund to Connect Oregon Fund.

### A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to transportation funding; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 367.080, 367.082,  
3 367.084, 367.086 and 824.237 and section 11, chapter 786, Oregon Laws 2013.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 367.080 is amended to read:

6 367.080. (1) As used in ORS 367.080 to 367.086, "transportation project" has the meaning given  
7 that term in ORS 367.010.

8 (2) The [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund is established separate and distinct  
9 from the General Fund. Earnings on moneys in the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon**  
10 Fund shall be deposited into the fund. Moneys in the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon**  
11 Fund are continuously appropriated to the Department of Transportation for the purposes described  
12 in subsection (3) of this section and in ORS 367.086.

13 (3) The department shall use moneys in the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund  
14 to provide grants and loans for transportation projects as provided in ORS 367.080 to 367.086.  
15 Grants and loans may be provided only for projects that involve one or more of the following modes  
16 of transportation:

- 17 (a) Air;  
18 (b) Marine;  
19 (c) Rail;  
20 (d) Public transit; and  
21 (e) Bicycle and pedestrian.

22 (4) All moneys received by the department as interest on loans made under this section and as  
23 repayment of principal of loans made under this section shall be deposited into the [*Multimodal*  
24 *Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund.

25 **SECTION 2.** ORS 367.082 is amended to read:

26 367.082. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the Department of Transporta-  
27 tion may provide, from moneys in the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund estab-  
28 lished by ORS 367.080:

29 (a) Grants for transportation projects to public bodies, as defined in ORS 174.109, and to private  
30 entities; and

31 (b) Loans for transportation projects to public bodies, as defined in ORS 174.109, and to private  
32 entities.

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (2) Grants and loans may not be made from the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon**  
 2 Fund for transportation projects that could constitutionally be funded by revenues described in  
 3 section 3a, Article IX of the Oregon Constitution.

4 (3) The Department of Transportation shall adopt rules:

5 (a) Specifying the process by which a public body or private entity may apply for a loan under  
 6 this section and prescribing the terms and conditions of loans, including but not necessarily limited  
 7 to interest rates and repayment schedules; and

8 (b) Specifying the process by which a public body or private entity may apply for a grant under  
 9 this section and prescribing the terms and conditions of grants, including but not necessarily limited  
 10 to a requirement that the public body or private entity receiving the grant provide at least 20 per-  
 11 cent of the moneys required for the transportation project.

12 **SECTION 3.** ORS 367.084 is amended to read:

13 367.084. (1) The Oregon Transportation Commission shall select transportation projects to be  
 14 funded with moneys in the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund established by ORS  
 15 367.080.

16 (2)(a) Prior to selecting aeronautic and airport transportation projects, the commission shall  
 17 solicit recommendations from the State Aviation Board.

18 (b) Prior to selecting freight transportation projects, the commission shall solicit recommen-  
 19 dations from the Freight Advisory Committee.

20 (c) Prior to selecting public transit and rail projects, the commission shall solicit recommen-  
 21 dations from its public transit and rail advisory committees.

22 (d) Prior to selecting marine projects, the commission shall solicit recommendations from the  
 23 Oregon Business Development Department.

24 (e) Prior to selecting bicycle and pedestrian projects, the commission shall solicit recommen-  
 25 dations from the advisory committee created by ORS 366.112.

26 (3) In selecting transportation projects the commission shall consider:

27 (a) Whether a proposed transportation project reduces transportation costs for Oregon busi-  
 28 nesses or improves access to jobs and sources of labor;

29 (b) Whether a proposed transportation project results in an economic benefit to this state;

30 (c) Whether a proposed transportation project is a critical link connecting elements of Oregon's  
 31 transportation system that will measurably improve utilization and efficiency of the system;

32 (d) How much of the cost of a proposed transportation project can be borne by the applicant for  
 33 the grant or loan from any source other than the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon**  
 34 Fund; and

35 (e) Whether a proposed transportation project is ready for construction.

36 **SECTION 4.** ORS 367.086 is amended to read:

37 367.086. (1) The Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Oregon Department of  
 38 Aviation, shall administer aeronautic and airport transportation projects selected under ORS 367.084  
 39 for funding with moneys in the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund. The Oregon  
 40 Department of Aviation may use moneys from the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon**  
 41 Fund to pay administrative costs incurred by the Oregon Department of Aviation in carrying out the  
 42 provisions of ORS 367.080 to 367.086.

43 (2) Except as provided in subsection (1) of this section, the Department of Transportation shall  
 44 administer all transportation projects that are selected under ORS 367.084. The Department of  
 45 Transportation may use moneys from the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund to pay

1 administrative costs incurred by the Department of Transportation in carrying out the provisions  
2 of ORS 367.080 to 367.086.

3 **SECTION 5.** Section 11, chapter 786, Oregon Laws 2013, is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 11.** (1) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2013, at the request of the Oregon Department  
5 of Administrative Services, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, the State Treas-  
6 urer is authorized to issue lottery bonds pursuant to ORS 286A.560 to 286A.585 in an amount that  
7 produces \$42 million in net proceeds and interest earnings for the purpose described in subsection  
8 (2) of this section, plus an additional amount estimated by the State Treasurer to be necessary to  
9 pay bond-related costs.

10 (2) Net proceeds of lottery bonds issued pursuant to this section and interest earnings must be  
11 transferred to the Department of Transportation for deposit in the [*Multimodal Transportation*]  
12 **Connect Oregon** Fund established under ORS 367.080 in an amount sufficient to provide \$42 million  
13 for the department to finance grants and loans for transportation projects as provided in ORS  
14 367.080 to 367.086.

15 (3) Bond-related costs for the lottery bonds authorized by this section must be paid from the  
16 gross proceeds of the lottery bonds and from allocations for the purposes of ORS 286A.576 (1)(c).

17 (4) The Legislative Assembly finds that issuing lottery bonds to finance transportation projects  
18 pursuant to this section is essential to promoting the state's economic development and the use of  
19 lottery bond proceeds is authorized based on the following findings:

20 (a) There is an urgent need to improve and expand publicly owned and privately owned trans-  
21 portation infrastructure to support economic development in this state.

22 (b) A safe, efficient and reliable transportation network supports the long-term economic devel-  
23 opment and livability of this state.

24 (c) A multimodal network of air, rail, public transit, highway and marine transportation moves  
25 people and goods efficiently.

26 (d) Local governments and private sector businesses often lack capital and the technical ca-  
27 pacity to undertake multimodal transportation projects.

28 (e) Public financial assistance can stimulate industrial growth and commercial enterprise and  
29 promote employment opportunities in this state.

30 (f) Public investment in transportation infrastructure will create jobs and further economic de-  
31 velopment in this state.

32 (g) The use of lottery bond proceeds as provided in this section will create jobs, further eco-  
33 nomic development, finance public education or restore and protect parks, beaches, watersheds, and  
34 native fish and wildlife within Oregon, and issuance of lottery bonds for the purpose described in  
35 this section is therefore an appropriate use of state lottery funds under Article XV, section 4, of the  
36 Oregon Constitution, and ORS 461.510.

37 **SECTION 6.** ORS 824.237 is amended to read:

38 824.237. (1) Notwithstanding ORS 367.082, a railroad company may not receive, directly or indi-  
39 rectly, a grant or loan of moneys from the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund es-  
40 tablished in ORS 367.080 if the railroad company charges a landowner for an easement to cross a  
41 railroad that is necessary for the landowner to access the landowner's property.

42 (2)(a) This section applies only to a railroad company that operates a railroad located wholly  
43 within the boundaries of Benton and Linn Counties.

44 (b) The provisions of this section do not apply to a railroad company that was imposing and  
45 collecting the charge before January 1, 2013.

1 (3) Rules adopted by the Department of Transportation under ORS 367.082 relating to applica-  
2 tions for grants or loans of moneys from the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund  
3 must provide for notice to applicants of the restrictions imposed by this section.

4 (4) If the department determines that a railroad company has charged a landowner for an ease-  
5 ment in violation of this section, the department may not thereafter make any further grants or  
6 loans of moneys from the [*Multimodal Transportation*] **Connect Oregon** Fund that would benefit the  
7 railroad company.

8 **SECTION 7. The Connect Oregon Fund is a continuation of the Multimodal Transporta-**  
9 **tion Fund established by ORS 367.080. Moneys contained in the Multimodal Transportation**  
10 **Fund on the effective date of this 2015 Act are considered to be moneys in the Connect**  
11 **Oregon Fund.**

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