

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Consumer Protection and Government Effectiveness

Fiscal: No fiscal impact
Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/23/16

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 02/23

Vote:

Yeas: 8 - Buehler, Fagan, Holvey, Hoyle, McLain, Nearman, Rayfield, Stark

Prepared By: Victoria Cox, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Exempts prepaid transportation cards from the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act and related statutes and from provisions related to the regulation of gift cards with expiration dates.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure
- Needs of transit providers
- Convenience of riders
- Positive impact on boarding times

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

TriMet, a public transportation agency providing bus, light rail and commuter rail service in the Portland metropolitan area, is planning to implement an electronic fare system in 2016 similar to systems adopted by several other transit districts around the country. Other transit agencies in Oregon are considering adoption of electronic fare systems as well. Under such systems, transit users create an account and deposit funds into it, and are subsequently issued a card which they tap on a sensor as they board to deduct the price of the fare from the account. The system tracks the amount remaining in the account, allowing a user to replenish the account or replace a lost card without losing the balance in the account.

Senate Bill 1527 exempts prepaid transportation cards from the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act and from provisions related to regulation of gift cards that expire.