

HB 3350 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Trade

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Effective January 1, 2018 establishes the Office of Outdoor Recreation (Office) within the State Parks and Recreation Department, the Outdoor Recreation Fund (Fund) and creates Associate Director of Outdoor Recreation (Associate Director) position to supervise Office. Directs State Parks and Recreation Director to appoint Associate Director. Directs Associate Director to establish an outdoor recreation advisory council to assist the Office. Appropriates moneys in the Fund to pay for the Office. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Removes requirement for Office to coordinate outdoor recreation resource management activities. Removes requirement for Assistant Director to establish an outdoor advisory council. Requires Assistant Director to consult with outdoor recreation representatives.

BACKGROUND:

In a survey completed by Responsive Management for the Task Force on Funding for Fish, Wildlife, and Related Outdoor Recreation and Education in 2016, over 60 percent of Oregonians surveyed report engaging in at least one outdoor activity in the last 12 months. These activities include visiting a state or national park, hiking, camping, wildlife viewing, biking, and hunting. A recent industry finding estimates the economic impact of Oregon's recreation industry at \$12 billion.

House Bill 3350 would create an Office of Outdoor Recreation (Office) within the State Parks and Recreation Department, and an Associate Director position to oversee the Office. The measure would direct the Associate Director to establish an advisory council to assist the Office in carrying out its' duties. Finally, House Bill 3350 would establish the Outdoor Recreation Fund, and use it to fund the operations of the Office.