



REPRESENTATIVE MARK JOHNSON
HOUSE DISTRICT 52

HB 3350 & -1 amendment: An “Office of Outdoor Recreation” will be created within the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Dedicated staff will fulfill specific responsibilities leading to: (1) improved communication within communities about recreation initiatives, (2) greater economic development through cross-sector collaboration, and (3) creation of new jobs across the state including rural Oregon. A fund is created under the office to accept donations for purposes of carrying out the responsibilities and new initiative of the Office. This public investment will result in matched private investment and grow the currently \$12 billion industry

Structure of the Office:

Office of Outdoor Recreation created within the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)

- Associate Director position is created to manage the office
 - Position is appointed by State Parks and Rec Commission
 - Position reports to Executive Director of OPRD
- Responsibilities of the Office include:
 - Make recommendations on outdoor recreation policy and management, with an environmentally sustainable focus, to OPRD Executive Director and Commission
 - Identify opportunities for economic development within industry and through partnerships with additional industries in coordination with Business Oregon
 - Collaborate with Travel Oregon on new initiatives and to create forums for communicating recreation-based initiatives
 - Regularly consult with recreation stakeholders including industry, environmental, conservation, local and federal representatives that are geographically and regionally representative of Oregon*Contained in the -1 amendment
- Establishes an Outdoor Recreation fund
 - Fund can receive contributions from any public or private source – Oregon’s private recreation industry will partner directly and contribute financially to the creation, maintenance, and implementation of the Office initiatives
 - Money in the fund can be used for the purposes of carrying out the functions or initiatives of the office

Why it’s necessary:

- Policy input needed to remove roadblocks to the industry and facilitate recreational opportunities in all sectors of the state
- Expand a skilled labor force
- Recruit out-of-state and international recreation businesses to Oregon
- Serve as liaison between outdoor recreation sectors (for-profit, nonprofit, governmental)

Estimated Cost:

- OPRD has identified staffing cost at \$300,000 per biennium.

ORS 390.010 Policy of state toward outdoor recreation resources

The Legislative Assembly recognizes and declares:

(1) It is desirable that all Oregonians of present and future generations and visitors who are lawfully present within the boundaries of this state be assured adequate outdoor recreation resources. It is desirable that all levels of government and private interests take prompt and coordinated action to the extent practicable without diminishing or affecting their respective powers and functions to conserve, develop, and utilize such resources for the benefit and enjoyment of all the people.

(2) The economy and well being of the people are in large part dependent upon proper utilization of the state's outdoor recreation resources for the physical, spiritual, cultural, scientific and other benefits which such resources afford.

(3) It is in the public interest to increase outdoor recreation opportunities commensurate with the growth in need through necessary and appropriate actions, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Protection of existing and needed open spaces for appreciation, use and enjoyment of Oregon's scenic landscape.
- (b) Provision of adequate land for outdoor recreation.
- (c) Preservation and restoration for public enjoyment and education of structures, objects, facilities and resources which are examples of Oregon history, archaeology and natural science.
- (d) Development of a system of scenic roads to enhance recreational travel and sightseeing.
- (e) Encouragement of outdoor activities such as festivals, fairs, and events relating to music, dance, drama, art and sports.
- (f) Expansion of facilities for camping, picnicking and lodging in or near recreational areas and along routes of travel.
- (g) Provision of tourist hospitality centers, which may include informational services, sanitary facilities, camping and picnicking areas at points near major highway entrances into the state.
- (h) Provision of trails for horseback riding, hiking, bicycling and motorized trail vehicle riding.
- (i) Development of waterways, land and water facilities for recreational boating, hunting and fishing.
- (j) Development of all recreation potentials of the several river basins, compatible with programs of water use enunciated by the Water Resources Commission.
- (k) Provision for access to public lands and waters having recreational values.
- (L) Encouragement of the development of winter sports facilities.
- (m) Encouragement of programs for recreational enjoyment of mineral resources.

(4) It is in the public interest that all efforts be made through research, education and enforcement to the end that Oregon's outdoor recreation resources will be used under the highest standards of conduct.

(5) It shall be the policy of the State of Oregon to supply those outdoor recreation areas, facilities and opportunities which are clearly the responsibility of the state in meeting growing needs; and to encourage all agencies of government, voluntary and commercial organizations, citizen recreation groups and others to work cooperatively and in a coordinated manner to assist in meeting total recreation needs through exercise of their appropriate responsibilities.