

HB 2149 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Business and Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 5/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Specifies that persons who qualify as former prisoners of war may pay a one-time, \$15 fee to register a motor vehicle.

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

REVENUE: Minimal revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV) of the Oregon Department of Transportation is responsible for issuing and maintaining registration for motor vehicles that operate on public roads in Oregon. The base rate for vehicle registration, for the standard "tree plate," is \$43/year; new vehicles have an initial registration of four years (\$172), with each subsequent registration being \$86 for two years. Motorists have the option of several different plate designs, most of which come with an additional charge. Some of these are assessed one time, such as the \$100 fee for the Pacific Wonderland plate, while others are assessed at each registration renewal, such as the \$30 assessed for Salmon plates.

In addition to the variety of standard plates, there are also a number of plates that fall under the "veteran plate" category. Only qualified veterans or certain family members may qualify for these plates for their passenger vehicle. Different veteran plates available include Congressional Medal of Honor, Gold Star Family and Purple Heart plates. Most of these plates have an additional fee, with revenues generated being used by various veteran organizations. The Ex-POW (Prisoner of War) plate is a gold plate with blue lettering, which features the phrase "Ex POW" and the letters PW.

One other category of veteran plate, the Disabled Veteran plate, has a one-time, permanent registration and plate fee of \$39. House Bill 2149 specifies that qualifying persons who receive Ex-POW registration plates for their vehicle pay the one-time, \$39 plate and registration fee. The plates may be transferred if ownership of the vehicle passes to the qualified spouse of a former prisoner of war.

HOUSE VOTE: 60-0