79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Prepared by:	Krista Dauenhauer
Reviewed by:	Doug Wilson, Gregory Jolivette, Steve Bender, Ken Rocco, Matt Stayner, John
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## **Measure Description:**

Establishes Willamette Falls Locks Commission as policy-making and advisory body for issues relating to repair, reopening, operation, maintenance and future transfer of ownership of navigational canal and locks.

## Government Unit(s) Affected:

Office of the Governor, Cities, Business Development Department (Business Oregon), Legislative Assembly, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), Counties, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Department of Justice

## Analysis:

The bill established the Willamette Falls Locks Commission consisting of twenty-three members from the following: Clackamas, Marion, Yamhill County Boards of County Commissioners; a governing body of the metropolitan service district for the Portland metropolitan area; Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon; Columbia River Tribe; State Parks and Recreation Department; Port of Portland; Department of Transportation; Oregon Business Development Department; Oregon City, West Linn, and Wilsonville cities; a representative of local businesses and economic development, tourism and recreation industries, and residents, in Clackamas County; a representative of an environmental or ecological nonprofit organization; two non-voting members from the Senate; and two non-voting members from the House of Representatives. Members of the commission are not entitled to compensation and may not be reimbursed for travel or other expenses. The bill requires no less than six commission meetings per year, and appropriates \$190,000 General Fund for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017 to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, to be distributed to Oregon Solutions at Portland State University for staffing and other resource costs.

Oregon Solutions at Portland State University estimates that staffing costs from a Senior Facilitator, Lead Facilitator, Project Associate, Program Director, and the associated travel and meeting expenses, could cost as much as \$188,857 in the 2017-19 biennium and \$196,097 in the 2019-21 biennium. The potential fiscal impact of services provided by the Department of Justice for legal advice are indeterminate at this time and will vary based on the frequency and complexity of the work undertaken by the Commission; however the minimum service level is anticipated to cost \$40,000 per biennium.

The fiscal impacts to the following state agencies and local governments, associated with appointments to the commission, are anticipated to be minimal and absorbable within existing budgetary parameters: Office of the Governor, Cities, Business Development Department (Business Oregon), Legislative Assembly, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), Counties, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), Higher Education Coordinating Commission