

SB 37 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Business and Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 2/13, 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies laws related to driving privileges.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Regular update of commercial driver license statutes to conform to federal law

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

[-1 amendment] Replaces new language in Section 3 related to passenger endorsements. Deletes existing statutory language in Section 6 relating to adoption of rules by Department. Modifies definition of "tank vehicle" in Section 10.

BACKGROUND:

The Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV) of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is the entity responsible for licensing individuals to operate both private and commercial motor vehicles in Oregon. Oregon statutes regulating driver licenses are periodically amended to conform with changes to federal law, particularly for commercial driver licenses (CDL), in order to provide national conformity for interstate commerce. Most Oregon statutes related to CDL are required by federal law.

Senate Bill 37 makes several changes to Oregon CDL statutes to conform with recent federal regulations. These changes include: electronic submission of medical certification of fitness to operate commercial motor vehicles; clarification that persons who are citizens of countries with a Compact of Free Association with the United States (Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Micronesia and Marshall Islands) may obtain a CDL; language related to commercial learner driver permits; and numerous wording and definitional changes made to conform to federal law.