

HB 2695 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Transportation Policy

Carrier: Rep. McKeown

Action Date: 02/24/17
Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)
Vote: 9-0-0-0
Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Evans, McKeown, McLain, Meek, Noble, Vial, Wilson, Witt
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Exempts certain towing vessels and their towed barges from requirement that a licensee of the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots pilot the vessel.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Jones Act applicability
- Historically, no bar pilot on tugs in the coasting trade
- Domestic vs. international vessels
- Customs clearing process
- Federal preemption
- Pilotage fees in Coos Bay

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Limits effect of measure to the Coos pilotage grounds.

BACKGROUND:

Current statute requires a bar pilot for vessels traversing the Columbia River Bar, Coos Bay, and Yaquina Bay. House Bill 2695 A exempts vessels engaged in the coasting trade between British Columbia and Oregon when the towing vessel is under control of an individual holding the appropriate federal mariner license.