

HB 3350 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Trade

Action Date: 04/03/17

Action: Do pass with amendments
and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Clem, Gomberg, Helm, Lewis, Lininger, Marsh, Post, Reschke, Smith DB

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

Prepared By: Adam Crawford, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Effective January 1, 2018 establishes the Office of Outdoor Recreation (Office) within the State Parks and Recreation Department, the Outdoor Recreation Fund (Fund) and creates an Associate Director of Outdoor Recreation (Associate Director) position to supervise Office. Directs State Parks and Recreation Director to appoint Associate Director. Requires Associate Director to consult with outdoor recreation representatives while fulfilling the Office's duties. Appropriates moneys in the Fund to pay for the Office. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Outdoor Recreation Fund purposes and what organizations could contribute
- Existing organizational framework for outdoor recreation support in Oregon
- Outdoor recreation offices in Washington, Utah, and Colorado

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Removes requirement for Office to coordinate outdoor recreation resource management activities. Removes requirement for Associate Director to establish an outdoor advisory council. Requires Associate Director to consult with outdoor recreation representatives.

BACKGROUND:

In a survey completed by Responsive Management for the Task Force on Funding for Fish, Wildlife, and Related Outdoor Recreation and Education in 2016, over 60 percent of Oregonians surveyed report engaging in at least one outdoor activity in the last 12 months. These activities include visiting a state or national park, hiking, camping, wildlife viewing, biking, and hunting. A recent industry finding estimates the economic impact of Oregon's recreation industry at \$12 billion.

House Bill 3350 A would create an Office of Outdoor Recreation (Office) within the State Parks and Recreation Department, and an Associate Director position to oversee the Office. The measure would direct the Associate Director to consult with outdoor recreation representatives in order to assist the Office in carrying out its duties. Finally, House Bill 3350 A would establish the Outdoor Recreation Fund, and use it to fund the operations of the Office.