

HB 2318 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Action Date: 04/04/17

Action: Do pass the bill. Refer to Ways and Means.

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Clem, Esquivel, McKeown, McLain, Power, Smith DB, Sprenger, Witt

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) to adopt range of reasonable charges for areas established and maintained by State Parks and Recreation Department (Department). With approval of Commission, allows Department Director to set, adjust and assess fees for use of areas established and maintained by Department within range adopted by Commission. Allows Director to adjust fees up to four times per calendar year.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Oregon has one of the most-used state parks systems in the U.S.
- Oregon Parks and Recreation Department has been using same fee structure since 1951
- One-size-fits-all pricing versus differentiation by seasons and locations
- Flexible pricing would not apply to day use parks or change pricing after reservation is made

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, the State Parks and Recreation Commission may adopt rules that assess reasonable charges for use of state parks and campgrounds. Fees may be temporarily decreased by the agency without prior legislative approval for competitive or promotional reasons or in the case of unexpected and temporary revenue surplus.

House Bill 2318 would allow the State Parks and Recreation Department Director to change fees for use of parks and campgrounds around the state up to four times per year, subject to a range of acceptable charges designated by the State Parks and Recreation Commission.