

**HB 2749 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Transportation Policy**

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**Action Date:** 04/05/17

**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 - Barreto, Evans, McKeown, McLain, Meek, Noble, Vial, Wilson, Witt

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued

**Prepared By:** Tim Walker, LPRO Analyst

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs the Port of Hood River and the Department of Transportation to study the feasibility of replacing the Hood River-White Salmon Bridge. Authorizes issuance of \$5 million in lottery bonds to finance the study. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Importance to interstate commerce
- Bridge is at the end of its useful life
- Too narrow for larger loads
- Built in 1924
- Sufficiency rating below 50 percent

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Replaces the original measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Hood River-White Salmon Bridge crosses the Columbia River at Hood River and provides access to the communities of White Salmon and Bingen, Washington. The bridge was built in 1924 and rebuilt in 1938, when the construction of the Bonneville Dam caused water levels to rise and made the addition of a lift span necessary. In 1950, the Port of Hood River purchased the bridge and currently charges a toll on the bridge. It is estimated the cost of bridge replacement is \$250 million.