

SB 281 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Action Date: 04/10/17
Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.
Vote: 5-0-0-0
Yeas: 5 - Baertschiger Jr, Dembrow, Olsen, Prozanski, Roblan
Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: No revenue impact
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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$1,000,000 from the General Fund into the Oregon Ocean Science Fund for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of Oregon Ocean Science Trust
- Increased likelihood of receiving federal funds with state matching funds available
- Continuing need for scientific research in nearshore area

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The 2013 Oregon Legislative Assembly established the Ocean Science Trust (Trust) and Fund to promote peer-reviewed, competitive research and monitoring that leads to increased knowledge and understanding of Oregon's ocean and coastal resources; promote innovative, collaborative, community-oriented, multi-institutional approaches to research and monitoring related to Oregon's ocean and coastal resources; and enhance the state's capacity for peer-reviewed scientific ocean and coastal research. Subject to available funding, the Trust is also directed to establish and execute a competitive grant program to conduct research and monitoring related to Oregon's ocean and coastal resources. The Trust is comprised of five voting members appointed by the State Land Board, and two non-voting members from the legislature (one Senator and one Representative). Department of State Lands provides administrative support, meeting coordination and other support to the Trust.

Senate Bill 281 would appropriate \$1,000,000 to the Oregon Ocean Science Trust Fund.