

**SB 285 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources**

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**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 \$4,600,000 from the General Fund to provide matching funds for the Northwest National Marine Renewable Energy Center at Oregon State University to receive federal funds for a deepwater test facility for utility-scale wave energy converters. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2017.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- History of federal grant for deepwater test facility
- State matching fund requirement
- Work with fishing community to select test location

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Northwest National Marine Renewable Energy Center (NNMREC) was established in 2008 by the United States Department of Energy to facilitate the development of marine renewable energy technologies. University partners include Oregon State University, University of Washington and University of Alaska Fairbanks. The NNMREC mission is to "facilitate commercialization of marine energy technology, inform regulatory and policy decisions, and close key gaps in scientific understanding with a focus on student growth and development."

Senate Bill 285 would appropriate \$4,600,000 to provide matching funds for the Northwest National Marine Renewable Energy Center at Oregon State University to receive federal funds for a deepwater test facility for utility-scale wave energy converters.