



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department 2019 Legislation

Heritage

Heritage Commission "Commemorations"

HB 2081

The Oregon Heritage Commission is directed to coordinate "statewide anniversary celebrations." *ORS 358.595* To be more inclusive of all Oregon voices in commemorating important anniversaries and expand the types of events that can be recognized, the commission is seeking to have their role changed to coordinating statewide anniversary commemorations.

Special Assessment of Historic Properties

SB 48

The longest running tax benefit program for historic preservation in the country, first enacted in 1975, is set to sunset in 2020. Currently is available to commercial and residential properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. We are proposing to extend the sunset until 2023 to provide time for local governments, preservation advocates and other interested parties to work together to develop a program that would target current preservation needs.

Stewardship

Timber Contracting Requirements

SB 49

OPRD restoration projects are subject to regulations that increase the cost and complexity of timber harvest operations, often leading to fewer or no bidders for projects of this type. When constructing roads directly associated with timber harvest operations, the Oregon Department of Forestry has an exemption to the Chapter 279 public works contracting requirements. SB 49 would add OPRD to this exemption.

Timber Appraisal Limit

SB 50

OPRD must get a competitive bid for all timber harvests over \$15,000 in appraised value. This concept would increase the threshold to \$25,000 to match the current limit for Oregon Department of Forestry.

Community & Grants

ATV Safety Education Cards

HB 2082

To increase safety and decrease confusion, HB 2082 proposes safety education cards be required for all ATV riders on public lands. Right now safety education cards are required for operators of all ages in Class I (four-wheelers) and Class III (dirt bikes) and for those under 16 in class IV (side-by-side). Safety concerns are rising as ATV sales, especially, class IV, have increased and more riders are flocking to the sand dunes.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Grants

HB 2083

In HB 2017 from 2017, OPRD was required to reimburse ODOT up to \$4 million for bicycle and pedestrian grants from lottery funds. During the 2018 session, the Joint Transportation Committee Chair agreed to bring back to the 2019 session a solution that would clarify the process to ensure it complies with constitutional requirements for the voter-dedicated lottery funding and address local stakeholder concerns.