

**SB 261 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources**

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**Prepared By:** Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/26

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Appropriates \$10,000,000 to the Oregon Coast Aquarium for projects that have been identified as priorities for the aquarium's current capital campaign. Projects to include remodeling the entryway and cafe, improving three galleries, creating a nature play area with a forestry theme, enhancing ocean literacy education programming, and construction and furnishing a marine wildlife rehabilitation center. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

*Subsequent referral to Joint Ways and Means*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Coast Aquarium is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization located in Newport, Oregon. The aquarium's mission is to create unique and engaging experiences that connect visitors to the Oregon coast and to inspire ocean conservation.

Senate Bill 261 would appropriate funds to the Oregon Coast Aquarium for projects that have been identified as priorities for the aquarium's current capital campaign.