

HB 2702 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

Prepared By: Alexa Diaz

Meeting Dates: 3/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows the City of Portland to designate speed on any highway under the city's jurisdiction.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces original measure. Expands Department of Transportation's authorization to delegate authority to city or county to establish a designated speed on low-volume or unpaved highways under their jurisdiction to all highways under the jurisdiction of the city or county.

BACKGROUND:

By enacting House Bill 2682 (2017), the Legislative Assembly authorized the City of Portland to reduce the designated speed for non-arterial residential highways under the city's jurisdiction by five miles per hour below the statutory speed. The City of Portland has updated 71 street speed limits since 2017. Previous law required city and county road authorities to make a formal request to the Department of Transportation to change speeds on highways. Formal requests were required to provide findings to justify the change in designated speed.

Cities with a state highway within city limits must have the road authority make a request to the Department's Highway Division for a speed zone change. The request is then forwarded to either the District Manager, Regional Manager or State Traffic-Roadway Engineer to conduct a speed-zone investigation and make a recommendation to grant or deny the request. The recommendation is sent to the Traffic-Roadway Section to be approved. The local road authority is notified of the decision. A speed zone order is issued if the local road authority concurs. If they do not concur, the case is sent to the Speed Zone Review Panel to issue a final decision.

House Bill 2702 expands the City of Portland's authorization to establish speed on any highway under the city's jurisdiction. The measure also removes the restriction that the new designated speed be five miles per hour lower than the statutory speed.