

HB 2351 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Taylor

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Action Date: 05/14/19

Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Bentz, Dembrow, Olsen, Prozanski, Roblan

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/2, 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) to adopt special regulations for boat operation on the Willamette River within the Willamette River Greenway, including establishment of designated speed and other methods for the protection of shoreline, public and private property, fish and wildlife habitat, and vegetation. Requires OSMB, when adopting special regulations, to consider Department of Land Conservation and Development Commission statewide land use planning goals and guidelines to protect, conserve, and maintain: natural, scenic, historical, agricultural, economic, and recreational qualities of land along Willamette River Greenway. Exempts tugboats, towboats, barges, launch vessels, and other commercial vessels from special regulations on Willamette River mile 0 to 26.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Shoreline erosion and damage to docks and other structures from waves generated by wake boats
- Willamette River Greenway
- Balancing river uses
- Authority for State Marine Board to adopt special regulations

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 1967, Oregon Governor Tom McCall proposed the idea of a greenway to enhance the scenic, recreational, historic, natural, and agricultural qualities along the Willamette River. The boundaries of the Willamette River Greenway were identified and adopted in the 1980s. Statewide Land Use Goal 15 specifically pertains to the Willamette River Greenway, and requires that adjacent cities and counties adopt local plans and development criteria.

House Bill 2351 A would authorize the Oregon State Marine Board to adopt special regulations for boat operation within the Willamette River Greenway. The measure would not apply to commercial vessels.