

HB 2112 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. McLain

Joint Committee On Transportation

Action Date: 05/15/19

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

House Vote

Yeas: 7 - Evans, Findley, Lewis, McKeown, McLain, Noble, Witt

Senate Vote

Yeas: 5 - Bentz, Beyer, Boquist, Frederick, Gelser

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: Has minimal revenue impact

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/1, 5/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Specifies that counties imposing a vehicle registration fee are not required to provide payment of at least 40 percent of revenues from the fee to cities within the county under the following conditions: the county has a population of 650,000 or more; and the moneys are used to perform capital maintenance on, plan, design, replace, acquire necessary property for, engineer, construct, or repair a bridge that crosses the Willamette River in the City of Portland (including debt service and costs). Applies only to vehicle registration fees imposed for those purposes. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Background on Multnomah County vehicle registration fee
- Needed upgrades to Portland bridges

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

In 2008, the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners adopted a county vehicle registration fee of \$19 per year to fund the replacement of the Sellwood Bridge. That fee has brought in more revenues than expected and more than required to pay back bonds issued for the project. In 2018, the Board voted to allow revenues from the fee to be used for other bridge projects.

Multnomah County is responsible for six of the Willamette River bridges; of these, the aforementioned Sellwood Bridge was recently replaced, and the Sauvie Island Bridge was rebuilt in 2008. The remaining four bridges, the Hawthorne, Broadway, Burnside, and Morrison bridges are in various stages of repair, all are listed on the National Historic Registry, and all are susceptible to a major seismic event. The Burnside Bridge has been identified as a key lifeline route that needs to be strengthened to withstand such an event.