

SB 411 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. McKeown

Joint Committee On Transportation

Action Date: 05/06/19

Action: Do Pass the A-Eng bill.

House Vote

Yeas: 6 - Evans, Findley, Lewis, McKeown, McLain, Noble

Exc: 1 - Witt

Senate Vote

Yeas: 3 - Beyer, Frederick, Gelser

Exc: 2 - Bentz, Boquist

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/24, 5/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Specifies that vehicles powered primarily by means of an electric battery may exceed the maximum weight limitation by up to 2,000 pounds.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Parity with weight limits for vehicles powered by compressed natural gas

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The first electric vehicle (EV) was developed in 1890 in Des Moines, Iowa. In the past century, electric vehicles have emerged as an alternative to gasoline powered vehicles. Federal and state policies have created incentives for purchasing electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations. The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission was authorized by House Bill 2186 (2009) to adopt rules to reduce the average carbon intensity of transportation fuels by 10 percent over a 10-year period to reduce the overall impact of the transportation sector.

In 2013, eight states, including Oregon, established the Multi-State Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) task force to collaborate on supporting state ZEV program implementation. House Bill 2017 (2017) made investments in electric vehicle adoption by mandating the creation of an electric vehicle rebate program. In 2017, Executive Order 17-21 established Oregon's goal of reaching 50,000 registered electric vehicles in the state by 2020. There were approximately 22,280 registered electric vehicles in Oregon in 2018.

Senate Bill 411-A increases the maximum allowable weight of vehicles powered primarily by electric battery. This exemption is the same already granted to vehicles that use natural gas as a fuel source, and allows these vehicles to exceed the maximum weight limitation by up to 2,000 pounds.