

HB 2523 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Dembrow

**Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110
Implementation**

Action Date: 05/20/21
Action: Do pass the A-Eng bill.
Vote: 4-3-0-0
Yeas: 4 - Dembrow, Gelser, Manning Jr, Prozanski
Nays: 3 - Heard, Linthicum, Thatcher
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: Revenue impact issued
Prepared By: Michael Lantz, Counsel
Meeting Dates: 5/10, 5/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to waive driving privilege reinstatement fee if driving privileges were suspended for failure to pay a traffic related court fine, failure to appear in court related to a vehicle offense or minor in possession charge, or failure to maintain required proof of liability insurance with ODOT. Specifies that reinstatement fee will not be waived if individual is also suspended for another reason. Sunsets measure on January 2, 2023. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Individual experiences with license suspensions
- Financial impacts to ODOT
- Potential for means testing fee waiver

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In Oregon, an individual's driving privileges can be suspended for a number of reasons including: 1) failing to appear at a required court proceeding related to a traffic offense or minor in possession charge (ORS 809.220); 2) failing to maintain proof of liability insurance with ODOT as required (future responsibility filing, ORS 809.415); 3) certain administrative violations; 4) or upon conviction of certain crimes such as driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII). The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) charges a \$75 fee to process the license reinstatement, which is in addition to any other court imposed conditions that must be met first. Prior to October 2020, an individual's driving privileges could also be suspended for failing to pay court ordered fines or comply with requirements ordered in lieu of fines in traffic related cases (See HB 4210, 2020 1st Special Session). That measure was not retroactive and did not eliminate any previously imposed fines.

House Bill 2523 A requires ODOT to waive the driving privilege reinstatement fee if driving privileges were suspended for failure to pay a traffic related court fine, failure to appear in court related to a vehicle offense or minor in possession charge, or failure to maintain proof of liability insurance with ODOT.