House Bill 2548

Sponsored by Representative HELM, Senator GORSEK; Representative HOLVEY, Senator PROZANSKI (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor’s brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Directs Legislative Policy and Research Office to study issues related to funding construction of wildlife corridor road crossings and report to appropriate committee or interim committee of Legislative Assembly on or before September 15, 2022. Specifies necessary contents of report. Sunsets January 2, 2023.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to funding for wildlife corridor road crossings.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Legislative Policy and Research Office shall study, as a supplement to and in conjunction with the Wildlife Corridor Action Plan described in ORS 496.272, issues related to funding wildlife corridor road crossings and on or before September 15, 2022, present the results of the study in a report to an appropriate committee or interim committee of the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided under ORS 192.245.

(2) The study described in subsection (1) of this section must, at a minimum, examine:

(a) The potential logistics and benefits of imposing a fee or surcharge on motor vehicle liability insurance policies to fund construction of wildlife corridor road crossings;

(b) An estimate of the numbers and types of wildlife corridor road crossings that would be necessary to significantly reduce collisions between motor vehicles and wildlife;

(c) An estimate of the moneys that a fee or surcharge of differing amounts could yield for a wildlife corridor road crossing construction program and the number of wildlife corridor road crossing construction projects that the program could potentially fund each year with different fees or surcharges; and

(d) An estimate of the reductions in property damage, health care costs, insurance premiums and other impacts that constructing an adequate number of wildlife corridor road crossings in appropriate locations could produce, along with an analysis of the benefits compared with the impact of the costs to motor vehicle liability insurance policy holders.

(3) The Department of Transportation, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Consumer and Business Services shall support and cooperate with the office in researching and preparing the report described in subsection (1) of this section.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2023.