 Senate Bill 740
Sponsored by Senator JOHNSON (at the request of Stan Tonneson)

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.

Increases registration fee for sailboats 12 feet in length or more and for all motorboats. Dedicates increase to Salvaged Vessel Subaccount.

Increases amount that State Marine Board may deposit and retain in Salvaged Vessel Subaccount each biennium.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to small watercraft fees; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 830.790 and 830.948.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 830.790 is amended to read:

830.790. (1) The biennial fee for the original or renewal certificate of number or registration is:

(a) [$5] $10 plus $5.95 per foot, or portion thereof, for all sailboats 12 feet in length or more and for all motorboats.

(b) $6, for boats that are assessed by the Department of Revenue under ORS 308.505 to 308.674.

(c) $6, for amphibious vehicles that are licensed by the Department of Transportation.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, no fee is required for boats owned by eleemosynary organizations which are operated primarily as a part of organized activities for the purpose of teaching youths scoutcraft, camping, seamanship, self-reliance, patriotism, courage and kindred virtues.

(3) Except for the assessment referred to in subsection (1)(b) of this section, the fees provided by this section are in lieu of any other tax or license fee.

(4) The operator of a boat livery holding five or more boats ready for hire may pay a biennial certificate of number fee of $90 plus $10 for each boat instead of the fee otherwise provided in this section.

(5) For each original or renewal certificate fee collected under subsection (1)(a) of this section, the State Marine Board shall deposit [$5 of] from the amount collected [into]:

(a) $5 into The Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund established under ORS 830.585; and

(b) $5 into the Salvaged Vessel Subaccount established under ORS 830.948.

SECTION 2. ORS 830.948 is amended to read:

830.948. (1) The Salvaged Vessel Subaccount is established within the Boating Safety, Law Enforcement and Facility Account created under ORS 830.140. The subaccount shall consist of moneys deposited into the subaccount by the State Marine Board from fees collected pursuant to ORS 830.790 and 830.850. The moneys in the subaccount are continuously appropriated to the board for the purposes specified in this section.

(2) The board may not deposit more than [$150,000] $1 million per biennium into the Salvaged Vessel Subaccount and may not retain more than [$150,000] $1 million in the subaccount at any

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.

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time. After the board has deposited [$150,000] $1 million into the subaccount under this subsection or any time there is more than [$150,000] $1 million in the subaccount, any remaining moneys from fees collected pursuant to ORS 830.790 and 830.850 shall be deposited in the Boating Safety, Law Enforcement and Facility Account.

(3) The board may use the moneys in the Salvaged Vessel Subaccount to pay the expenses of the board in implementing ORS 830.908 to 830.948 that are associated with the salvage, towing, storage and disposal of:
   (a) Vessels other than boats that are abandoned vessels or derelict vessels; and
   (b) Vessels that are boats of less than 200 gross tons.

(4) The board may use the moneys in the Salvaged Vessel Subaccount to pay an enforcement agency for no more than 90 percent of the costs of salvage, towing, storage and cleanup of an abandoned vessel or a derelict vessel that has or had a certificate under ORS 830.770 or 830.775 and that is:
   (a) A boat of less than 200 gross tons; or
   (b) Any other abandoned vessel or derelict vessel that is not a boat.

(5) The board may use the moneys in the Salvaged Vessel Subaccount to pay an enforcement agency for no more than 75 percent of the costs of salvage, towing, storage and cleanup of an abandoned vessel or a derelict vessel that has never had a certificate under ORS 830.770 or 830.775 and that is:
   (a) A boat of less than 200 gross tons; or
   (b) Any other abandoned vessel or derelict vessel that is not a boat.

(6) The board may reimburse an enforcement agency under subsection (4) or (5) of this section for costs associated with an abandoned vessel or a derelict vessel only if the enforcement agency complied with ORS 830.908 to 830.948 in seizing the vessel.

(7) The board may use the moneys in the Salvaged Vessel Subaccount to award grants to the state, a city, a county, a water improvement district, a park and recreation district or a port as provided in ORS 830.150 for the disposal of a vessel that has or had a certificate under ORS 830.770 or 830.775 and that the owner has surrendered to an accepting public agency if:
   (a) The public agency has determined that the vessel was in danger of being an abandoned vessel or a derelict vessel and was likely to cause damage to the environment or become a hazard to navigation; and
   (b) The decision to accept the vessel was based solely on the public agency's determination under paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(8) The board may recover payments made from the Salvaged Vessel Subaccount from an owner of a vessel who is liable for the costs of salvage, towing, storage and disposal under ORS 830.938. The board shall deposit all funds recovered under this section into the subaccount in accordance with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section.

SECTION 3. The amendments to ORS 830.790 by section 1 of this 2021 Act apply to fees imposed on or after the effective date of this 2021 Act.