

SB 679 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Prepared By: Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$1 million General Fund moneys to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for continued development of the Oregon Coast Trail. Caps biennial lottery revenues designated for funding bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects on signature, scenic, or recreation trails to \$1 million to develop, maintain, or work toward completion of the Oregon Coast Trail.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Coast Trail is a hiking trail that consists of 10 segments running the length of Oregon's 362-mile coastline from the northern to the southern border of the state. With its origins in early laws that preserved Oregon's coast for public use, such as the 1913 designation of the shoreline as a public highway and the Beach Bill of 1967, the Oregon Coast Trail has been developed in earnest piece-by-piece since the passage of the Oregon Recreation Trails System Act in 1971.

Currently, approximately 40 miles, or 10 percent, of the route are still disconnected, inconvenient, unsafe, or inaccessible during certain seasons, with some gaps requiring hiking along Highway 101. In 2017, the legislature enacted House Bill 3149, which charged the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation, other state agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and stakeholders, to develop an action plan to complete the Oregon Coast Trail and to submit annual reports to the legislature on the progress made toward action plan implementation and the full completion of a coastwide trail without critical gaps.

Senate Bill 679 would appropriate \$1 million General Fund moneys to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for continued development of the Oregon Coast Trail and cap biennial lottery revenues designated for funding bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects on signature, scenic, or recreation trails to \$1 million to develop, maintain, or work toward completion of the Oregon Coast Trail.