

## SB 679 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Natural Resources

---

**Action Date:** 03/20/23

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. Refer to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng).

**Vote:** 5-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 5 - Girod, Golden, Prozanski, Smith DB, Taylor

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/20, 3/20

---

#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$250,000 General Fund moneys to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for planning and coordination to continue to develop, maintain, or work toward completion of the Oregon Coast Trail.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Vision for the Oregon Coast Trail (Trail)
- Economic development opportunities in nearby communities
- Regional Solutions project to further Trail planning
- Sources of funding for the Trail
- Easements, property acquisition, and other tools for Trail completion
- Policy committee role in appropriations measures

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Coast Trail (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 largely been developed section-by-section since the passage of the Oregon Recreation Trails System Act in 1971.

Currently, approximately 40 miles of the route are still disconnected, inconvenient, unsafe, or inaccessible during certain seasons, with some gaps requiring hiking along Highway 101. In 2017, the Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 3149, which charged the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, 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 A would appropriate \$250,000 General Fund moneys to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for planning and coordination to continue to develop, maintain, or work toward completion of the Oregon Coast Trail.