



Legislative Fiscal Office
 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
 2025 Regular Session

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 Date: April 1, 2025

Bill Title: Relating to state parks; prescribing an effective date.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Administrative Services, Parks and Recreation Department

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Administrative Services - Capitol Grounds Management	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 677,850	\$ -	\$ 677,850	4	3.00
Parks and Recreation Department - Capitol Grounds Management	\$ -	\$ (208,681)	\$ (217,199)	\$ -	\$ (425,880)	(3)	(2.25)
Parks and Recreation Department - Study	\$ -	\$ 72,719	\$ 75,688	\$ -	\$ 148,407	1	0.50
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ (135,962)	\$ 536,339	\$ -	\$ 400,377	2	1.25

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Administrative Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 773,830	\$ -	\$ 773,830	4	4.00
Parks and Recreation Department	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-

Measure Description

The measure directs the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to conduct a comprehensive study on the long-term sustainability of the state park system. The study must evaluate funding models, operational feasibility, potential structural changes, statutory and regulatory barriers, campground expansion in high-demand areas, infrastructure needs, and new revenue sources that balance recreation and conservation. A report, including any legislative recommendations, is due to an interim legislative committee related to state parks by September 15, 2026. This provision is repealed on January 2, 2027.

The measure transfers management authority over the Capitol area grounds from OPRD to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). This includes oversight of the grounds surrounding the State Capitol and associated facilities, which were previously designated as the State Capitol State Park. The transfer is implemented through amendments to multiple statutes, replacing references to the “State Capitol State Park” with “Capitol area” throughout ORS 276 and related chapters. The measure also authorizes the Legislative Administration Committee to reimburse DAS for shared expenses using the State Capitol Operating Account, which continuously appropriates deposited funds to the Legislative Administration Committee.

DAS is granted full oversight of the Capitol area, including grounds maintenance, public amenities, and the planning and development of monuments and memorials. The Capitol Planning Commission’s advisory role is updated to reflect this shift. DAS also assumes responsibility for any records, property, personnel, contracts, and obligations previously held by the OPRD in relation to the Capitol area. The measure ensures legal and

administrative continuity by designating DAS as the successor agency.

Amendments related to this transfer become operative on January 1, 2026. DAS is authorized to take preparatory actions in advance to ensure a smooth transition of duties and responsibilities.

Fiscal Analysis

The estimated net total fiscal impact for transferring the management authority from OPRD to DAS is \$251,970 total funds, 1 position (0.75 FTE) in the 2025-27 biennium and \$773,830 Other Funds in the 2027-29 biennium. The fiscal impact for OPRD to conduct the study required by the measure is \$148,407 total funds, 1 position (0.50 FTE) in the 2025-27 biennium.

Department of Administrative Services

DAS will assume responsibility for management and maintenance of the Capitol area grounds beginning in the 2025-27 biennium. To support this transition, DAS estimates \$543,350 Other Funds in the 2025-27 biennium and \$639,330 Other Funds in the 2027-29 biennium for staffing costs. These costs include two permanent full-time Grounds Keeper 1 positions, one permanent full-time Grounds Keeper 2 position, and one permanent full-time Construction and Facilities Maintenance Supervisor 1 position, each budgeted at 0.75 FTE in 2025-27 and 1.00 FTE in 2027-29. Additional services and supplies are estimated at \$134,500 Other Funds in the 2025-27 and 2027-29 biennia.

DAS anticipates additional responsibilities related to landscaping, public event support, and maintenance of memorials and interpretive features; however, specific costs for these functions are currently indeterminate. These may include prior reimbursements made to OPRD, ongoing contracts, and obligations related to the Capitol Mall and surrounding grounds. As a result, the full fiscal impact may be understated.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

OPRD is directed to conduct a study on revenue shortfalls in the state park system, including the feasibility of financially self-sustaining operations and the identification of new or alternative revenue sources. The study will also evaluate the potential for campground expansion in high-demand areas. To support this work, OPRD anticipates hiring a limited duration full-time Operations and Policy Analyst 3 position (0.50 FTE) for approximately 12 months. Position-related costs are estimated at \$65,369 Lottery Funds and \$68,038 Other Funds in the 2025-27 biennium. Additional services and supplies are estimated at \$7,350 Lottery Funds and \$7,650 Other Funds.

The measure also transfers management of the Capitol grounds to DAS, resulting in the reallocation of 2.25 FTE from OPRD to DAS. Associated personnel costs are estimated at \$425,880 total funds in the 2025-27 biennium. If the grounds are no longer designated as a state park, OPRD anticipates additional costs for removing park signage, branded structures, and walkway segments; however, those costs have not been estimated. Loss of revenue from special use permits is expected to be minimal, with OPRD reporting approximately \$5,600 in permit revenue to date in fiscal year 2025.

Relevant Dates

The changes to statutes and provisions related to the Capitol area become effective on January 1, 2026.

The report must be submitted by OPRD to interim legislative committees related to state parks no later than September 15, 2026. The study requirement is repealed on January 2, 2027.

The measure takes effect on the 91st day after sine die.