

SCR 32 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 5/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure reaffirms the State of Oregon’s commitment to its relationship with the People’s Republic of China.

Fiscal impact: No impact

Revenue impact: No impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The year 2025 marks the 46th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the People’s Republic of China, which was announced on December 15, 1978, through a Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations. In 2025, the State of Oregon celebrates the 41st anniversary of its sister state relationship with Fujian Province, and the 11th anniversary of its sister state relationship with Tianjin Municipality, demonstrating Oregon’s long-standing commitment to fostering robust trade and cultural exchanges between the two nations.

The establishment of an Oregon trade office in China would further enhance export growth and economic collaboration between Oregon and the Pacific region, while strengthening sister state relations through partnerships in education, tourism, business, shipping, environmental sustainability and cultural exchanges. Visits by Oregon’s Governor and state legislators to China in 2025 and beyond would increase export opportunities, attract investment, expand shipping cooperation and promote joint initiatives in clean technology.

Oregon’s Legislative Assembly has a long-standing, bipartisan and bicameral tradition of fostering people-to-people collaboration with China, as exemplified by the Oregon-China Sister State Committee, which is cochaired by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Oregon’s trade relationship with China supports more than 35,000 high-paying jobs in the state, and China was Oregon’s second largest export market in 2024, with exports totaling nearly \$6 billion.

Shipping connectivity is vital to Oregon’s export-driven economy, and with investments at the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay and the long-standing strength of the Port of Portland, there is a strategic opportunity to strengthen trade with Asian countries, including China. Coos Bay and Portland are Oregon’s only two international shipping ports and they are also the only federally approved foreign trade zones in Oregon, so they are uniquely positioned to drive commerce and subnational economic growth between Oregon and China.

Oregon and China also share a history of collaboration on climate initiatives, with significant progress made in environmental cooperation, including scientific partnerships between Crater Lake National Park and Wuyishan National Scenic Area to address climate change challenges.

Additionally, Oregon is home to thousands of Chinese Americans, and communities across the state recognize and celebrate the invaluable contributions of Chinese immigrants in shaping Oregon’s history, culture and economy,

from advancements in public policy and social justice advocacy to fostering educational and cultural exchange.

PRELIMINARY