

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	George, Schrader, Starr, Metsger
Nays:	-
Exc.:	Verger
Prepared By:	Jim Stembridge, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Exempts road machinery from vehicle title and registration requirements.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- County road maintenance vehicles
- History of titling such vehicles

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: ORS chapter 803 provides requirements for certificates of title and for registration of vehicles that are owned and operated in the state. Some vehicles, including bicycles, snowmobiles, some trailers, and several types of road and farm equipment, are exempt from title and/or registration requirements.

Since 2005, the Driver and Motor Vehicle Division (DMV) of the Oregon Department of Transportation has refused title and registration applications for “fixed load vehicles,” as defined by ORS 801.285, that are owned and operated by counties. These vehicles are exempt from title and registration requirements while operating within a construction site; however, they must also be operated on a roadway in ways incidental to their use in highway maintenance operations. In such cases, these vehicles are out of compliance with title and registration requirements.

House Bill 2041 creates a statutory definition for “road machinery” that includes, but is not limited to, backhoes, chip spreaders, excavators, forklifts, front-end loaders, mowers, road graders, snow blowers, and utility tractors. The measure designates these types of vehicles, when operated at the direction of a road authority, to be exempt from title and registration requirements, provided that the use is incidental to use in a highway maintenance operation.