REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	3 – 1 – 1
Yeas:	Prozanski, Thomsen, Dingfelder
Nays:	Olsen
Exc.:	Hass
Prepared By:	Beth Patrino, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/10, 2/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to collect $70 per trip for vessels regulated under ballast water statutes. Establishes Ballast Water Fund and directs deposit of trip fees into fund. Continuously appropriates fund to DEQ to monitor, screen, and inspect vessels and ballast water; manage aquatic invasive species; coordinate activities with other agencies and states; and perform stakeholder outreach and education. Requires DEQ to assess $25 late charge if payment is not received by due date. Imposes additional $25 late charge if fee is not received 45 days after due date.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:
- Percentage of vessels inspected
- Invasive species in Columbia River system
- Effect of proposed fee on industry
- Other states' programs and fees

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: DEQ administers the Ballast Water Management program to prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species from the discharge of ballast water. Oregon law requires vessels to take certain preventative actions when discharging ballast water in state waters. DEQ monitors compliance through screening, inspections and ballast water sampling. In addition, DEQ coordinates ballast water management activities with other states, educates stakeholders, and responds to invasive species threats.

In 2009, House Bill 2714 directed the Shipping Transport of Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force to review the Ballast Water Program and recommend a funding strategy. In June 2010, the Task Force recommended a $68 to $70 fee to support half of the program budget.