Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly - 2015 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

MEASURE: SB 192 A CARRIER: Rep. Weidner

House Committee On Transportation and Economic Development

Fiscal:	Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue:	No Revenue Impact
Action Date:	05/13/15
Action:	Do Pass.
Meeting Dates:	04/29, 05/13
Vote:	
	Yeas: 4 - Bentz, Davis, Lively, McLain
	Exc: 3 - Gorsek, Hack, McKeown
Prepared By:	Patrick Brennan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Parks and Recreation Department to convene a work group to examine options for allowing users of all-terrain vehicles to operate on state highways and to report findings of the work group to the appropriate committees of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2016. Sunsets December 31, 2016.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need to resolve issues relating to access of all-terrain vehicles to highways
- Importance of involving wide range of stakeholders

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

All-terrain vehicles, or ATVs, come in several classes: *Class I ATVs* are generally three- or four-wheeled, weigh less than 1,200 lbs., use straddle seats and handlebar steering; *Class II ATVs* are larger vehicles, and often are off-road capable versions of street-legal vehicles; *Class III ATVs* are off-road motorcycles; and *Class IV ATVs*, often called side-by-sides or utility terrain vehicles, are smaller than Class IIs but typically have similar structure, such as non-straddle seating and steering wheels. ATVs are required to be licensed with the Oregon of Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) for operation on public lands, but typically are not authorized for on-road use.

Senate Bill 192-A directs OPRD to convene a work group to examine options for allowing ATVs to operate on state highways. There are multiple groups of ATV riders interested in making this change, particularly those in farming and ranching communities who use ATVs for farming operations, and riding groups that travel across the state and through multiple communities. The Department is directed to report findings of the work group to the appropriate interim committees of the Legislative Assembly.