

HB 3375 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Trade

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Business Development Department (Business Oregon) to develop a grant program to fund infrastructure projects that promote tourism on the Oregon coast. Allocates \$300 million in funding to Business Oregon to fund the grant program. Requires Business Oregon to consult with a nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing community needs through collaborative governance prior to selecting grant recipients. Requires Business Oregon to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly describing the projects that received grants. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Adds seismic safety and resilience projects to allowed fundable projects under the grant program.

BACKGROUND:

Travel Oregon divides Oregon into seven tourism regions, one of which is the Oregon Coast. In 2015, visitor spending increased by 3.9 percent, and average growth in demand increased by 3.4 percent.

House Bill 3375 allocates \$300 million to the Oregon Business Development Department (Business Oregon) to create a grant program. This grant program would provide grants to public entities to fund infrastructure projects that support tourism on the Oregon Coast.