

SB 454 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Business and Transportation

Action Date: 04/17/17

Action: Do pass with amendments. Refer to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng).

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Girod, Monroe, Riley, Thomsen

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Department of Transportation to establish the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area highway improvement program.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Needed transportation improvements in region
- Seeking both state and federal support
- Movement of people and freight through Columbia River Gorge

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Specifies that the Department may consult with State of Washington, local governments and local service districts located within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Adds on-ramp to westbound lane at Exit 47 and improved access to weigh station located on Southeast Frontage Road in Cascade Locks to minimum improvements included in plan.

BACKGROUND:

The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area extends along the portion of the lower Columbia River that forms the border between Oregon and Washington state from just west of Biggs to just east of Troutdale. It encompasses the cities of The Dalles, Mosier, Hood River, Cascade Locks, Bridal Veil and Corbett on Interstate 84. Washington State Route 14 follows the course of the Columbia River on its north side.