HB 2318   STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Witt

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Action Date:	05/19/17
Action:	Do Pass.
House Vote	
Yeas:	11 - Gomberg, Holvey, Huffman, McLane, Nathanson, Rayfield, Smith G, Smith Warner, Stark, Whisnant, Williamson
Senate Vote	
Yeas:	11 - DeBoer, Devlin, Frederick, Girod, Johnson, Manning Jr, Monroe, Roblan, Steiner Hayward, Thomsen, Winters
Exc:	1 - Hansell
Fiscal:	Fiscal impact issued
Revenue:	No revenue impact
Prepared By:	Matt Stayner, Budget Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure allows for the State Parks and Recreation Commission to establish a schedule that sets forth a range of charges within which the State Parks and Recreation Director may set, adjust, and assess fees for use of areas established and maintained by the department. The Director is limited to adjusting the fees to no more than four times each year.

Although the bill exempts the fees set or adjusted by the OPRD Director from the requirements of ORS 291.055, relating to the ratification of fees set during the biennium, the range of fees established by the State Parks and Recreation Commission will still be subject to legislative approval, or ratification if established during the interim.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:
- A brief overview of the measure was provided by the Oregon Parks Director
- Potential additional revenue
- Agency budget and operational impacts

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, the State Parks and Recreation Commission may adopt rules that assess reasonable charges for use of state parks and campgrounds. Fees may be temporarily decreased by the agency without prior legislative approval for competitive or promotional reasons or in the case of unexpected and temporary revenue surplus.

The measure would allow the agency to adjust fees across all properties in accordance with changing market conditions and demand. This will also allow the agency to afford discounted fees to encourage the increased use of lesser known or visited properties.