

**HB 2236 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Joint Committee On Transportation**

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**Prepared By:** Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/6, 3/27

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Allows farm tractors to operate on state highways that have a speed limit or posted speed of more than 35 miles per hour.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Areas where significant numbers of farm vehicles operate on highways
- Clarification of statute to ensure proper enforcement

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Oregon statute defines "low speed vehicle" as a four-wheeled vehicle with a top speed of more than 20 miles per hour but not more than 25 miles per hour (ORS 801.331). Oregon adheres to federal standards for low speed vehicles as outlined in 49 CFR § 571.500, which specifies that low speed vehicles must be equipped with headlights, front and rear turn signals, taillamps, stop lamps, reflex reflectors, exterior mirrors on both sides, a parking brake, a windshield, and qualifying seat belt assemblies.

House Bill 2236 clarifies that farm tractors do not qualify as "low speed vehicles" for purposes of the offense of unlawful operation of a low speed vehicle on the highway.