

HB 2333 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

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Meeting Dates: 6/5, 6/7, 6/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Changes the definitions of “recreational vehicle” and “park model recreational vehicle” in the Oregon Vehicle Code. Allows the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to provide for optional titling, but not registration, of a park model recreational vehicle. A recreational vehicle having a title issued by ODOT would not qualify as a structure. An owner of a recreational vehicle that converts it for use as a structure would be required to surrender the title to ODOT. Any recreational vehicle converted for use as a structure would subject to the Oregon Building Code. A seller of a new recreational vehicle would be required to provide a purchaser with written warranty information. Removes regulation of the construction of recreational vehicles from the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS). Takes effect January 1, 2020.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Merits of the bill

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Resolves conflicts.

BACKGROUND:

Until recently, park model recreational vehicles (also known as "tiny homes on wheels") were treated by the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) as recreational vehicles. Under current law, DCBS regulates the construction of manufactured structures, which includes recreational vehicles, manufactured dwellings, and recreational structures. Manufacturers obtain certification by registering with DCBS and providing an approved quality control manual. Certified manufacturers may purchase insignias of compliance from DCBS, which are affixed to recreational vehicles intended for rent, lease, or sale in Oregon. Recreational vehicles registered and titled in another state are not subject to the requirement to bear an insignia of compliance. Oregon is one of three states in the nation that regulates the construction of recreational vehicles.

DCBS recently adopted a rule that changed the definition of "recreational vehicle" to exclude recreational vehicles with wood siding, pitched roofs, or bay windows, all of which are common features of park model recreational vehicles. Manufacturers and owners of these vehicles are no longer able to receive the recreational vehicle insignia of compliance from DCBS. After a brief lapse, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has resumed issuing title and registration documents to those units that are no wider than 8.5 feet.

The measure would deregulate the construction of recreational vehicles, including park model recreational vehicles. The measure would define a park model recreational vehicle as a recreational vehicle that is more than 8.5 feet wide. It would permit ODOT to issue a title to any recreational vehicle, but not a registration, for a park model recreational vehicle. It would remove regulation of the construction of recreational vehicles from DCBS.