

HB 2171 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee to consult with the Oregon Office of Outdoor Recreation (OREC) when making recommendations regarding use of Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF) moneys. Appropriates \$1 million matching fund to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife out of the General Fund for use as OCRF moneys. Repeals sunset on OCRF. Directs Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to establish and ensure compliance with the statewide standards for design of recreation projects. Establishes Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee (committee) with OREC and describes the provisions related to member appointments. Directs OREC to maintain website with links to agency websites and with information regarding how to purchase outdoor recreation passes, permits, or licenses. Requires OREC, in consultation with committee,, to study and recommend for legislation, necessary information to develop single online storefront for outdoor recreation passes. Requires OREC to submit annual inventory and gap analysis of outdoor recreation infrastructure to the Legislative Assembly. Directs OREC to study and submit report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2022 with recommendations on equity strategies to increase access to outdoor recreation and ensure the reflection of geographic, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity. Directs OREC to collaborate with Oregon Business Development Department to design and propose legislation to implement grant program to support outdoor recreation products organizations and accelerators. Requires OREC to submit proposed legislation to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Adds that the Associate Director of Outdoor Recreation or the Associate Director's designee in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee (Committee) serves as a nonvoting, ex officio member. Replaces the condition that the matching fund to the Oregon Recreation and Conservation Fund (OCRF) will be released only after the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) deposit of \$1 million to releasing funds in increments that match the actual deposits made by ODFW to the OCRF from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2023. If measure does not become effective until after June 2031, expresses legislative intent that repeal in Section 3 applies retroactively to June 30, 2021. Directs Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to establish statewide recommended standards over setting standards for design of recreation projects. Replaces Committee's role from assisting the Associate Director of Outdoor Recreation to advising and recommending on statewide outdoor recreation policy and adds role of providing recommendations for safe and comfortable outdoor tourism and recreation for specified communities. Removes the requirement for Office of Outdoor Recreation to study and recommend to the Legislative Assembly on appointments of committee members with consideration of geographic, racial, ethnic and gender diversity.

BACKGROUND:

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The 2017 Oregon Legislative Assembly created the Office of Outdoor Recreation (OREC) within the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to advocate for outdoors and connect the personal, community, and economic benefits of outdoor recreation for all Oregonians. In 2019, the legislature created the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF) within the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to support projects that protect and enhance species, habitats, and associated recreational opportunities.

HB 2171 would repeal the sunset clause on Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF) and appropriate \$1 million matching fund out of the General Fund to OCRF. It would direct the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to establish statewide standards for design of recreational projects and direct the Office of Outdoor Recreation to study and recommend to the Legislative Assembly equity strategies that would reflect geographic, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in access to outdoor recreation.