

SB 466 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 3/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Creates the Abandoned Recreational Vehicle Disposal Revolving Account within the State Highway Fund. Authorizes increased registration fee for campers, travel trailers, and motor homes, with additional revenue placed in Revolving Account. Authorizes Department of Transportation to utilize moneys from Revolving Account to reimburse for the cost of towing and disposal of abandoned recreational vehicles. Designates the person that abandons vehicle responsible and liable for the costs towing and disposal. Modifies content of notice to parties interested in abandoned vehicles. Requires law enforcement to move hazardous recreational vehicles used as domiciles prior to towing, when possible. Allows towers to sell or dispose of unclaimed seized, impounded, and forfeited vehicles under same process as abandoned vehicles.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon State Police (OSP) has indicated that there has been an increase in the number of abandoned recreational vehicles (RVs) since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020. In many cases, these vehicles are found in public areas, including on road shoulders or turnout areas. It can often be difficult to find the owner of abandoned recreational vehicles, as some of them are out-of-state vehicles; in some cases, law enforcement is unable to locate the responsible owner. As a result, the costly removal and disposal of the vehicle must be paid for by the property owner where the vehicle was recovered.

Senate Bill 466 establishes an Abandoned Recreational Vehicle Disposal Revolving Account within the State Highway Fund to compensate property owners for costs incurred in removal and disposal of abandoned RVs for which they were not responsible. The measure authorizes the Department of Transportation to increase registration fees for RVs to provide moneys for the Revolving Account.