

HB 2523 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Michael Lantz, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/8, 3/22, 4/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Department of Transportation to waive driving privilege reinstatement fees if driving privileges were suspended for failure to pay a court fine. Provides that measure sunsets on January 2, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cost of license reinstatement fee
- Impacts of losing license
- Budget impacts to ODOT of temporarily waiving fee

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces measure. Requires Oregon Department of Transportation to waive driving privilege reinstatement fees if driving privileges were suspended for failure to a pay court fine, failure to appear in court, or failure to provide new proof of compliance with responsibility fillings (proof of liability insurance). Specifies that fee will not be waived if individual is also suspended for another reason. Provides that measure sunsets on January 2, 2023. Takes effect 91st day following adjournment sine die.

BACKGROUND:

In Oregon, an individual's driving privileges can be suspended for a number of reasons including failing to appear for a required court proceeding, failing to comply with a future responsibility filling (providing proof of liability insurance), certain administrative violations, or upon conviction of certain crimes such as driving under the influence of intoxicants. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) charges a \$75 fee to process the license reinstatement, which is in addition to any other court imposed conditions that must be met first. Prior to October 2020, an individual's driving privileges could also be suspended to failing to pay court ordered fines or comply with requirements ordered in lieu of fines (*See HB 4210, 2020 1st Special Session*). While an individual's driving privileges can be reinstated, the individual will usually have to pay an administrative fee to the Oregon Department of Transportation in order for the reinstatement to be processed.

House Bill 2523 requires requires ODOT to waive the driving privilege reinstatement fee if driving privileges were suspended for failure to pay a court fine.