

HB 2777 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Prepared By: Tyler Larson, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/22, 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs State Marine Board to provide optional licensing of boats as charter boats, upon request from a person, if boat carries fewer than seven passengers for hire for angling, sightseeing, or other recreational purposes. Requires that such boat licensed as charter boat be subject to the same provisions, conditions, fees and other requirements as other charter boats. Expands definition of "charter boat" to include boat with optional charter license.

House vote: Ayes, 41; Excused, 14--Bonham, Boshart Davis, Bynum, Clem, Grayber, Hayden, Levy, Nearman, Owens, Pham, Reynolds, Wallan, Williams, Zika; Excused for Business of the House, 5--Camps, Drazan, Gomberg, Salinas, Weber

Minimal fiscal impact; no revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current passenger limits for charter boat licensing
- Designation required to receive fishery disaster relief funds

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon Law prohibits a person from engaging in the business of a charter boat, defined as carrying seven or more passengers for hire for angling, sightseeing, or other recreational purposes on the waters of this state, without first obtaining a charter boat license from the State Marine Board. An individual seeking a charter license must submit an application to the board which includes: proof of liability insurance of at least \$500,000 per occurrence; an annual charter boat license fee of at least \$50; and, for applicants who accept deposits from clients in excess of \$100, a bond or other financial security worth at least \$5,000.

House Bill 2777 requires the board to offer optional charter boat licensing for boats used to carry fewer than seven passengers for angling, sightseeing, or other recreational purposes. The optional license is subject to the same provisions, conditions, fees, and other requirements as other charter boats. Boats with the optional charter license are included in the statutory definition of "charter boat" giving the board a more accurate count of charter boats that might be eligible for federal fishery disaster assistance.