

HB 2909 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 1/26, 3/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$1,190,000 to Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for distribution to the Oregon Coast Visitors Association for various projects. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Coast Visitors Association (OCVA) is the official Regional Destination Management Organization for the entire Oregon Coast as designated by the Oregon Tourism Commission (Travel Oregon). OCVA works with coastal communities to align partnerships, destination development projects, and destination marketing.

Geographic information systems tools (GIS Tools) give end users the ability to manipulate and create their own digital maps with layers of information, real time simulations, and data to reveal patterns and trends. A blue economy is an economic system or sector that seeks to conserve marine and freshwater environments while using them in a sustainable way to develop economic growth and produce resources such as energy and food.

The Oregon Kelp Alliance (ORKA) represents diverse interests in kelp forest ecosystems.

Oregon's Marine Experiment Station is the state's primary research engine supporting use and conservation of marine resources. The Seafood Analytical Lab contains equipment for nutritional and quality evaluation of seafood products.

House Bill 2909 appropriates \$1,900,000 to Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for distribution to the Oregon Coast Visitors Association for various projects. \$190,000 to develop geographic information systems tools for food systems. \$700,000 for a facility in partnership with the Oregon Kelp Alliance; a kitchen, processing center, and cold storage at the Newport Seafood Analytical Lab; and the development of a mobile processing unit. As well as \$300,000 to support existing business connected to projects funded by the bill. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.