

HB 2793 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 5/4, 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

See "Effect of Amendment" section below.

NOTE - LFO requests that the measure be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Jurisdictional concerns about "orphan highways"
- Planning considerations for safety and traffic improvements
- Ongoing maintenance needs of orphan highways

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Replaces the original measure. Establishes the Jurisdictional Transfer Advisory Committee within the Department of Transportation, consisting of 11 members appointed by the Governor. Directs Advisory Committee to review proposed jurisdictional transfer applications, develop a list of three recommended transfers before each odd-numbered year session, and submit report with list of projects recommended for funding to the Joint Committee on Transportation. Outlines criteria for evaluation of applications. Specifies that Department of Transportation will provide assistance and meeting space for Advisory Committee. Requires advisory committee to meet at least four times each year. Directs Department to adopt rules specifying process for applying for inclusion. Prescribes list of application requirements. Adds operative Sunsets January 2, 2029. Adds emergency clause.

FIS: Fiscal impact statement issued on measure w/the -3 amendment

RIS: No revenue impact on measure w/the -3 amendment

BACKGROUND:

Like many states, Oregon is home to a number of prominent roads that were developed for significantly different purposes than they currently serve. Some were originally highways connecting rural areas to markets, only to see communities build up around them through development and population growth. In other cases, development can lead to local streets that come to be used as significant connector routes. Local governments and the Oregon Department of Transportation have studied a number of potential transfers for years. However, the transfer process can be complicated, because it is often necessary to make significant and costly upgrades to a given highway facility prior to the transfer.

House Bill 2793, with the -2 amendment, creates the Jurisdictional Transfer Advisory Committee. The measure direct the Governor to appoint 11 members, consisting of transportation engineers; city, county, and regional government representatives; road and transit users; law enforcement; and one member each from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Transportation Safety Committee. Member will serve four-year terms, selects a chair from among its own members, adopts rules, and qualified members are entitled to compensation for travel and other expenses. The Department of Transportation is directed to provide assistance and meeting space.

The purpose of the Jurisdictional Transfer Advisory Committee is to solicit and review applications for potential transfers, and to select three to forward to the Joint Committee on Transportation for consideration prior to each

odd-numbered-year legislative session. In addition to review by the Oregon Transportation Commission, the Advisory Committee is to evaluate using criteria such as differing standards of maintenance; use of the highway by the community; climate impacts of transfer and subsequent upgrades; multimodal transportation options; potential positive impacts on underserved groups; and transfer readiness.

PRELIMINARY