

HB 2951 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Transportation to establish program for awarding grants to providers of traffic safety education courses to fund Spanish language traffic safety education courses. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of Transportation for biennium beginning July 1, 2023, to award grants. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces original measure. Appropriates \$500,000 from General Fund to Centro Cultural of Washington County to provide Spanish language traffic safety education courses. Directs Department of Administrative Services to report to Legislative committees by September 15, 2025. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2023.

FIS: Fiscal impact statement issued on measure w/the -1 amendment

RIS: No revenue impact on measure w/the -1 amendment

BACKGROUND:

Oregon does not require that prospective drivers participate in traffic safety education courses in order to be licensed to operate motor vehicles; however, it does provide incentives to do so. Prospective drivers who complete an accredited traffic safety education course are allowed to obtain a license with only 50 hours of supervised driving under an instruction permit with a licensed driver over 21 years of age, while persons who have not completed a traffic safety course must log 100 hours of supervised driving. In addition, persons who successfully complete a traffic safety education course have the required drive test waived.

House Bill 2951, with the -1 amendment, provides for the creation of a pilot program in Washington County to offer Spanish-language traffic safety education courses. The measure appropriates \$500,000 for the pilot project and includes a required report to the Legislative Assembly.