

**A-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 2137**

Ordered by the House May 15  
Including House Amendments dated May 15

Sponsored by Representative MANNIX; Representative CRAMER (Presession filed.)

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Establishes Willamette River Bridge Task Force.  
Sunsets task force on December 31, 2024.  
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to Willamette River bridges; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Willamette River Bridge Task Force is established.**

5 **(2) The task force consists of nine members appointed as follows:**

6 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the**  
7 **Senate, one member who is registered with the largest political party in this state and the**  
8 **other member who is registered with the second largest political party in this state. Each**  
9 **member shall represent a district that is within 60 miles of the Wheatland Ferry.**

10 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among**  
11 **members of the House of Representatives, one member who is registered with the largest**  
12 **political party in this state and the other member who is registered with the second largest**  
13 **political party in this state. Each member shall represent a district that is within 60 miles**  
14 **of the Wheatland Ferry.**

15 **(c) The Governor shall appoint:**

16 **(A) Two members chosen from a list of four persons recommended by the Marion County**  
17 **Board of County Commissioners;**

18 **(B) Two members chosen from a list of four persons recommended by the Polk County**  
19 **Board of County Commissioners; and**

20 **(C) One member recommended by the Special Districts Association of Oregon.**

21 **(3) The task force shall conduct a study that includes exploration of strategies, including**  
22 **forming a special district, for the financing, construction and maintenance of an additional**  
23 **bridge crossing the Willamette River connecting Marion and Polk Counties outside of the**  
24 **Salem-Keizer urban growth boundary.**

25 **(4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the**  
26 **transaction of business.**

27 **(5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting**  
28 **members of the task force.**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.  
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       **(6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.**

2       **(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**  
3 **ment to become immediately effective.**

4       **(8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson**  
5 **or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.**

6       **(9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

7       **(10) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and**  
8 **may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative**  
9 **Assembly related to transportation no later than December 15, 2024.**

10       **(11) The Department of Transportation shall provide staff support to the task force and**  
11 **shall gather and summarize information for the task force from prior studies conducted on**  
12 **the subject matter described in subsection (3) of this section.**

13       **(12) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting**  
14 **members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.**

15       **(13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not**  
16 **entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task**  
17 **force.**

18       **(14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist**  
19 **the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted**  
20 **by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task**  
21 **force consider necessary to perform their duties.**

22       **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on December 31, 2024.

23       **SECTION 3.** This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
24 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect**  
25 **on its passage.**

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