

SB 1539 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Action Date: 02/15/24

Action: Do pass with amendments. Refer to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng).

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Hansell, Knopp, Lieber, Manning Jr, Steiner

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/13, 2/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure establishes a \$1,500,000 grant program for youth sporting events through the Sport Oregon Foundation that sunsets on January 2, 2027. It declares an emergency and is effective on passage.

Detailed Summary

Establishes a grant program for local government bodies and nonprofit organizations to help fund youth sporting events. Appropriates \$1,500,000 from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to distribute to the Sport Oregon Foundation for this purpose. Requires the Sport Oregon Foundation to submit a detailed report on the grants and their beneficial impacts to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. Sunsets January 2, 2027. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The purpose of the grant program
- The need for a pool of strategic funds to bring regional or national youth sporting events to Oregon
- The removal of the Oregon Tourism Commission from the grant program
- Other potential revenue sources for this program

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment removes the involvement of the Oregon Tourism Commission, increases and clarifies the involvement of the Sport Oregon Foundation, and reduces the appropriation to \$1,500,000.

Detailed Summary

Appropriates \$1,500,000 to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for the Sport Oregon Foundation. Allows grant recipients to be nonprofit organizations. Removes the maximum award cap. Requires the Sport Oregon Foundation to submit a detailed report on the grants and their beneficial impacts to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

BACKGROUND:

Sport Oregon promotes sports tourism, provides grants, and conducts programs to support youth sports activities, with an emphasis on underserved youth and increased physical activity. Sport Oregon also sponsors the Oregon Sport Awards, which recognizes the top high school athletes from across the state.