

HB 2558 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

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Meeting Dates: 2/19, 3/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure modifies the definition of “charter guide” in the context of outfitter and guide laws, modifies the current registration fee structure to increase fees for resident outfitters and guides, and creates a new fee for employees, all of which are to be applied uniformly regardless of state of residence to fees imposed on or after November 1st, 2025. The measure also increases civil penalties for boating outfitters and guides that fail to comply with registration and safety requirements.

Detailed Summary

- Changes the definition of ‘Charter Guide’ to an individual who possesses a valid U.S. Coast Guard operator license and carries no more than six passengers for hire for outdoor recreational activities on federally navigable waterways.
- Removes distinction between resident and non-resident annual registration fees and instead changes the annual registration fee for outfitters and guides, regardless of residence, to \$350.
- Establishes annual registration fees of \$25 for employees.
- Applies new fee structure to all fees imposed on or after November 1st, 2025.
- Increases civil penalties for boating outfitters and guides who fail to comply with registration and safety requirements from \$500 to \$1,000 for penalties imposed on or after the effective date of the measures.
- Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment modifies the new definition of 'charter guides', adds a definition of 'crew member', and establishes registration requirements for crew members. The amendment also changes the proposed modification of the registration fee structure.

Detailed Summary

- Narrows the definition of ‘Charter Guide’ to an outfitter and guide who possess a valid U.S. Coast Guard operator license and carries no more than six passengers for hire for outdoor recreational activities on federally navigable waterways.
- Adds a definition of 'crew member'.
- Requires crew members to register with the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) and provide specified personal information, information about the applicants' employer, proof of specified first aid certifications, and an affidavit stating that the applicant has not been convicted of certain crimes, misdemeanors, and violations relevant to the applicants outfitting of guiding activities.
- Authorizes OSMB to require an annual or biennial crew member registration, directs OSMB to establish registration renewal procedures through rulemaking, and sets the fee for the initial registration application and each registration renewal to \$50 per year.
- Includes crew members in current statutes related to outfitter and guide registrations.

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- Adds an annual registration fee of \$500 for charter guides, regardless of residence.
- Increases the annual registration fee for outfitters and guides, that are not otherwise a charter guide, to \$350, regardless of residence.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

BACKGROUND:

The Outfitter and Guide Program was first established in 1984. The program focuses on registering outfitters and guides and requires liability protection for clients. The Oregon State Marine Board registers outfitters and guides annually to certify that they carry the minimum liability insurance required by law, that they have current First Aid and CPR training and, if required, have a USCG Operator License or Surety Bond. Outfitters and guides are issued an annual registration card that they are required to carry and show to anyone who asks. Under current law, Oregon imposes an annual registration fee of \$150 for resident outfitters and guides. For non-residents, the registration fee is equivalent to the amount charged by the outfitter's home state. Currently, employees are not issued separate registration cards.