

HB 2145 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

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Meeting Dates: 3/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure provides funding for a county fairground capital construction master plan and removes the annual limit on funding allocated to the County Fair Account. It declares an emergency and is effective on passage.

Detailed Summary:

Appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund for Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) to develop a county fairground capital construction master plan. Requires five and ten-year plans for each county fairground in the state, and any findings or recommendations regarding county fairground capital construction. Directs OBDD to retain a consultant to help develop the master plan. The consultant will work with each county fair board, each fair association's board of directors, each fair district's board to identify capital construction needs. Planning requirements sunset on July 1, 2027.

Removes the annual limit of \$1.53 million from the amount allocated to the County Fair Account from the Oregon State Lottery.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

- *FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement issued yet.*
- *REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement issued yet.*

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment removes the \$250,000 appropriation to OBDD for developing the county fairground capital construction master plan and changes the allocation to the County Fair Account from one percent to nine-tenths of one percent.

BACKGROUND:

The County Fair Account was established in 1969 and provides funding for county fairgrounds located throughout the state. Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) has provided grants for capital improvement projects to county fairground facilities in past legislative sessions, including \$10 million in lottery bond funding between 2019 and 2021. The State Fair Council oversees the Oregon State Fair and Exposition Center. Located in Salem, the center hosts Oregon's annual state fair and provides a venue for meetings, concerts, trade shows and other events.

Currently, the County Fair Account is allocated one percent of net proceeds from the Oregon State Lottery, not to exceed \$1.53 million annually. House Bill 2145 removes this annual limit. The measure also appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund for OBDD to develop a county fairground capital construction master plan.