

## **SB 565 -1, -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire**

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**Prepared By:** Alexa Piscanio, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/18, 3/27, 4/1

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure instructs the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to study campground availability within 25 miles of the Oregon Coast, including the feasibility of expanding existing campgrounds and establishing new ones. It requires OPRD to submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to state parks no later than September 15, 2026. Sunsets January 2, 2027. Takes effect on 91<sup>st</sup> day following adjournment sine die.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) operating budget
- Capitol grounds management between Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and OPRD
- -2 amendment to authorize OPRD to control the utilization of the State Capitol State Park grounds

#### **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-1 amendment directs the State Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to study options for establishing a sustainable funding model to address revenue shortfalls in state park operations, assessing the:

- Feasibility of generating sufficient revenue to cover state park expenses.
- Department operations or programs that generate disproportionate funding and may be better suited for a different organizational structure.
- Statutory or regulatory barriers that hinder addressing the unique needs of the state parks system.
- Feasibility of expanding state campgrounds in high-demand areas, including locations within 25 miles of the Oregon coast.
- Addressing maintenance and repair needs of aging park infrastructure to ensure sustainability for future generations.
- Options for establishing new revenue sources to sustainably fund state parks while protecting Oregon's natural environment and meeting recreational needs.

-2 amendment directs the State Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to study options for establishing a sustainable funding model to address revenue shortfalls in state park operations and grants the State Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) control over State Capitol State Park, while limiting the Department of Administrative Services authority to the Capitol Area.

#### Detailed Summary:

Includes the changes in the -1 to require the State Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to submit a report on state park funding and operations to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly relating to State Parks no later than September 15, 2026. Sunsets January 2, 2027.

Amends definition of "Capitol area" to add the grounds immediately surrounding the State Capitol bordered by State Street on the south, Court Street on the north, Cottage Street on the west, and Waverly Street on the east. Repeal provisions establishing State Capitol State Park and transfers management and control of "Capitol area"

from OPRD to DAS, including records, property, and employees.

Authorizes the Governor to resolve any disputes during the transition. This change will take effect on January 1, 2029, but DAS may begin necessary actions before that date.

Takes effect the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) offers multiple options for those seeking to camp on or near the Oregon Coast. Reservations for State Parks campgrounds can be made online, with overnight fees dependent on the location. Some campsites do not accept reservations and operate as first-come-first-serve campgrounds. Along the Oregon Coast, there are 15 state parks and 2 state recreation areas/sites that offer overnight tent or recreational vehicle (RV) camping.