

HB 2990 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 4/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Transportation to provide a report on its progress in revising the written test for Class C driver licenses and to submit the report to the Joint Committee on Transportation no later than September 15, 2026. Sunsets January 1, 2027. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 The amendment replaces the original measure. It establishes an Office of Language Translation within the Oregon Department of Transportation for the purpose of translating written materials provided by the Department in languages other than English. It directs the Office to translate all written materials provided to the public. These materials may include, but are not limited to, materials for registering a vehicle, titling a vehicle, obtaining identification cards, taking the knowledge test, and any driving knowledge test. Specifies that office may partner with local community-based operations. It directs the Department to establish a grant program for funding traffic safety courses in languages other than English and allocates an unspecified amount from the General Fund for this purpose. It also directs the Department to report to the Joint Committee on Transportation on progress of developing these programs and on the number of grants awarded. The measure is repealed January 1, 2028.

FISCAL:

REVENUE:

BACKGROUND:

The Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV) of the Oregon Department of transportation (ODOT) is the state entity responsible for regulation and oversight of motor vehicles and drivers in the state of Oregon. It offers a number of services, credentials, and documents at nearly 60 field offices statewide, as well as a growing number online. Most of the documents and tests used by DMV are available exclusively in English; there are field offices that retain staff who are fluent in multiple languages who can assist in certain circumstances, but for issues such as written driver knowledge tests, the primary language for such tests is English.