

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 2982

Relating to small watercraft

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Owens

HB 2982 increases various boating-related fees administered by the Oregon State Marine Board.

The measure raises the aquatic invasive species prevention permit fee for non-resident boats, increases registration fees for motorized boats, and adjusts the livery fee for operators managing five or more boats. It also removes the 10-foot minimum requirement for waterway access permits and exempts nonmotorized boats under 10 feet in length that are used for whitewater recreation. These changes are scheduled to take effect in January 2026.

Aquatic Invasive Species of particular concern in Oregon include Quagga and Zebra mussels, which can disrupt freshwater ecosystems and damage infrastructure such as water intake systems. Revenue from these increased fees will support invasive species prevention, facility grants, and improvements to boating access statewide.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends HB 2982 be reported out do pass.