

HB 2977 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 6/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure renames the Oregon Conservation Strategy Subaccount as the Recovering Oregon's Wildlife Fund Subaccount. It increases the state transient lodging tax from 1.5% to 2.75%. It specifies the net revenue from 1.0 percentage points of the increase is to be distributed to the Recovering Wildlife Fund Subaccount. It specifies the net revenue from 0.25 percentage points of the increase is to be distributed to the Department of State Police, the Department of Agriculture, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), and the Department of Justice. It determines distributions from the 0.25 percent increase are to be used for wildlife stewardship, wolf management compensation, and combating poaching and invasive species. It directs revenues received by the ODFW as contributions for the Oregon Conservation Strategy or the Oregon Nearshore Strategy be transferred to the Recovering Oregon's Wildlife Fund Subaccount. It expands the use of the account to include promotion, implementation, or revision of the Oregon Conservation Strategy and the Oregon Nearshore Strategy policies. It expands the use of the account to include nonfederal fund matching requirements of conservation or restoration programs designed for the recovery and management of species. It applies the increased tax on or after January 1, 2026, and takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: Revenue impact issued

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes 36; Nays 15; Excused 9

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

A 1% transient lodging tax was established by HB 2267 (2003) to help fund Oregon Tourism Commission programs. In 2016, the legislature increased the tax from 1% to 1.8% for July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2020, and 1.5% thereafter. The lodging provider or intermediary collect and remit the tax. There are some exclusions from the tax including health care facilities, emergency shelters, and military facilities.