

**HB 3175 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Boice

**House Committee On Emergency Management, General  
Government, and Veterans**

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**Action Date:** 02/25/25  
**Action:** Do Pass.  
**Vote:** 5-0-2-0  
**Yeas:** 5 - Boice, Lewis, Skarlatos, Tran, Watanabe  
**Exc:** 2 - Evans, Grayber  
**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued  
**Revenue:** No revenue impact  
**Prepared By:** Beverly Anderson, LPRO Analyst  
**Meeting Dates:** 2/11, 2/25

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure removes the cap on fees a county may charge to fund the county's activities related to public land survey corners.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Description of what public land survey corners are and how they are maintained
- Questions about who currently pays the fee and how high the fee might be if the cap is lifted
- The current status of the land survey workforce and the need for more public surveyors

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

According to ORS 209.005, public land survey corners are defined as a "section corner, one-quarter section corner, Donation Land Claim corner, meander corner, witness corner or any other corner established by the General Land Office or its successor." The United States created public land corners in 1852 to encourage Oregon Territory settlement. Public land survey corners mark the boundary corners of public and private land.

When Oregon achieved statehood in 1859, county surveyors became responsible for maintaining and re-establishing public land corners. As part of this responsibility, current law authorizes county governing bodies to establish a fee of up to \$10 for recording all such instruments. Moneys collected are deposited into the Public Land Corner Preservation Fund.