HB 2773 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Action Date: 04/09/25

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.

(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Boice, Hartman, Helm, Levy B, Marsh, McDonald, McLain, Owens, Scharf

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: Revenue impact issued
Prepared By: Anna Glueder, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/10, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to use dedicated lottery bond funds to establish a grant program for building and improving public facilities that improve fishing access and that are located inside an urban growth boundary.

Detailed Summary

Makes legislative findings. Authorizes the State Treasurer, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, to issue lottery bonds in an amount that produces \$2 million in net proceeds and interest earnings, plus an additional amount to pay bond-related costs. Directs proceeds of lottery bonds to be transferred to a specified subaccount and directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to use funds to establish a grant program within the restoration and enhancement program to award grants for building and improving public facilities that improve fishing access that serve to protect, maintain, or enhance fish and wildlife resources in Oregon, located inside an urban growth boundary. Sunsets the Act on January 2, 2033. Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Reason for the amendment
- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment removes the appropriation, and the requirement for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to award grants paid out of the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund. Instead, it directs ODFW to use dedicated lottery bond funds to establish a grant program for building and improving public facilities that improve fishing access and that are located inside an urban growth boundary, that serve to protect, maintain, or enhance fish and wildlife resources in Oregon. It moves the sunset from January 2, 2028, to January 2, 2033.

BACKGROUND:

Lottery Revenue Bonds are a financing tool that allows Oregon to fund the same priorities as State Lottery proceeds. These include job creation, economic development, public education, and the restoration and protection of parks, beaches, watersheds, and native fish and wildlife. When a new bond issuance is approved, the authorizing legislation must clearly outline how the bond proceeds will be used.

The Restoration and Enhancement Program was established by the legislature in 1989 to provide grants for projects that benefit sport and commercial fisheries. The program is funded from a dedicated surcharge on recreational and commercials permits and licenses. The Fish and Wildlife Commission appoints a seven-member Restoration and Enhancement Board to study potential projects and make recommendations for project funding.