HB 3568 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Action Date: 04/09/25

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

Vote: 7-0-1-0

Yeas: 7 - Dobson, Harbick, Hudson, McIntire, Neron, Ruiz, Wright

Exc: 1 - Nguyen H
Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued
Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 3/17, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates \$600,000 from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Education for distribution to the Oregon Coast Visitors Association. The measure requires the funds be used for educational programing and marketing in public schools, improving seafood awareness and proficiency in public schools, and supporting seafood harvesters and processors to develop products for use in public schools. The measure also appropriates \$200,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Agriculture for local food incentives and product development of seafood products in public schools. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on July 1, 2025.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Nutritional impacts of seafood consumption
- Seafood distribution in Oregon

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the <u>US Department of Agriculture (USDA)</u>, seafood is a protein that provides beneficial fatty acids. The USDA recommends that children age two to eight consume two to six ounces of seafood each week and for children age nine and older, it recommends eight to 10 ounces of seafood. The USDA recommends that young children consume seafoods higher in beneficial fatty acids and lower in methylmercury.

The <u>Oregon Coast Visitors Association</u> (OCVA) is the official Regional Destination Management Organization for the Oregon Coast. The OCVA works with coastal communities to create partnerships, destination development projects, and destination marketing. According to the <u>Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife</u>, in 2023, the Oregon commercial fishing industry harvested 301.4 million pounds of seafood worth over \$177 million.