

HB 2522 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Manning Jr

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 05/20/25

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 5-1-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Broadman, Gelser Blouin, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Thatcher

Nays: 1 - McLane

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/24, 4/30, 5/14, 5/19, 5/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the use of headlights when the windshield wipers are in operation. It also directs the Department of Transportation to conduct an outreach program to educate drivers and the general public about the amendments to ORS 811.515 by this 2025 Act.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Highways with minimal lighting making visibility difficult in poor weather conditions
- Study about benefits of headlights during poor weather conditions
- Educating drivers of law changes
- Preemptive stops

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment removes language requiring that headlights be turned on when there is fog. It also adds a provision that requires the Department of Transportation to conduct an outreach program to educate drivers and the general public about the amendments to ORS 811.515 by section 1 of this 2025 Act.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon law requires that any lighting equipment a vehicle is required to be equipped with must be displayed when the vehicle is upon a highway within this state at any time limited visibility conditions exist.

House Bill 2522 A amends these requirements to apply at any time the windshield wipers of the vehicle are in operation, unless the windshield wipers are being operated solely for the purpose of cleaning the windshield.