

House Bill 3579

Sponsored by Representatives DRAZAN, HELFRICH; Representative LEWIS, Senator BONHAM

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act says the OTC must get elector approval before the OTC imposes a toll on a highway. (Flesch Readability Score: 66.3).

Provides that tolling proposed by the Oregon Transportation Commission must be approved by electors before implementation.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to tolling; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 383.150.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 383.001 to**
5 **383.245.**

6 **SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Oregon Transportation**
7 **Commission may not assess a toll unless the toll proposed by the commission is referred for**
8 **approval or rejection to the electors of this state and is approved by a majority of the votes**
9 **cast on the question.**

10 **SECTION 3.** ORS 383.150 is amended to read:

11 383.150. (1) The Oregon Transportation Commission shall establish a toll program.

12 (2) As part of the toll program, after seeking and receiving approval from the Federal Highway
13 Administration, the commission may assess variable rate tolls. Tolling may include, but is not lim-
14 ited to assessing variable rate tolls for the purpose of:

15 (a) Managing congestion; and

16 (b) Partially or wholly funding the construction, operation or maintenance of a highway.

17 (3) **Subject to section 2 of this 2025 Act**, the commission shall assess tolls [*in the following*
18 *locations:*]

19 [(a) *On Interstate 205, beginning at the Washington state line and ending where it intersects with*
20 *Interstate 5 in this state.*]

21 [(b)] on Interstate 5, beginning at the Washington state line and ending where it intersects with
22 Interstate 205.

23 (4) To the extent necessary and permitted by state and federal law and Article IX, section 3a,
24 of the Oregon Constitution, the commission shall ensure tolls assessed pursuant to subsection (3)
25 of this section or tolls assessed as part of the Interstate 5 Boone Bridge and Seismic Improvement
26 Project:

27 (a) Reduce traffic congestion by managing demand on the tollway and by improving operations
28 on the tollway;

29 (b) Reduce traffic congestion as a result of the tollway, not only on the tollway but also on ad-
30 jacent, connected or parallel highways to the tollways, regardless of ownership;

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (c) Improve safety not only on the tollway but also on adjacent, connected or parallel highways
2 to the tollways, regardless of ownership; and

3 (d) Minimize and mitigate impacts to historically and currently underrepresented and disadvan-
4 tagged communities.

5 (5) Any unit of government assessing tolls on highways for which the unit of government is the
6 road authority, pursuant to ORS 810.010, shall collaborate with other units of government to:

7 (a) Determine whether assessing tolls may result in traffic, equity, safety or climate impacts as
8 a result of assessing tolls;

9 (b) Determine appropriate investments or efforts that may minimize or reduce any potential im-
10 pacts; and

11 (c) Periodically review any investments or efforts identified and implemented under this sub-
12 section.

13 (6) Before assessing tolls in the locations described under subsection (3) of this section, the
14 commission shall report to the Joint Committee on Transportation established under ORS 171.858.

15 (7) The commission may enter into agreements with the State of Washington, or the State of
16 Washington's tollway operator or other designee, relating to establishing, reviewing, adjusting and
17 collecting tolls for the program described in this section.

18 (8) As used in this section, "highway" has the meaning given that term in ORS 366.005.
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