

House Bill 3334

Sponsored by Representatives SHIELDS, J SMITH; Representative BARNHART (at the request of Brad Perkins)

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**.

Creates task force to study potential economic impact of developing high speed railway between Eugene and Portland.

Sunsets task force on date of convening of next regular biennial legislative session.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the development of a high speed railway; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) There is created the Task Force on High Speed Railway, consisting of 13**
5 **members appointed as follows:**

6 (a) **The President of the Senate shall appoint two members of the Senate, one of whom**
7 **is a Democrat and one of whom is a Republican.**

8 (b) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members of the House**
9 **of Representatives, one of whom is a Democrat and one of whom is a Republican.**

10 (c) **The Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services shall appoint:**

11 (A) **One member from among persons recommended by the Portland Business Alliance.**

12 (B) **One member from among persons recommended by the Salem Area Chamber of**
13 **Commerce.**

14 (C) **One member from among persons recommended by the Eugene Area Chamber of**
15 **Commerce.**

16 (d) **The Director of Transportation shall appoint:**

17 (A) **One member from the Department of Transportation.**

18 (B) **One member from among persons recommended by the Port of Portland.**

19 (C) **One member from among persons recommended by Portland and Western Railroad,**
20 **Inc.**

21 (e) **The Lane County Board of Commissioners shall appoint one member who is a repre-**
22 **sentative of Lane County government.**

23 (f) **The Marion County Board of Commissioners shall appoint one member who is a rep-**
24 **resentative of Marion County government.**

25 (g) **The Washington County Board of Commissioners shall appoint one member who is a**
26 **representative of Washington County government.**

27 (2) **The task force shall:**

28 (a) **Study the potential economic impact of developing a high speed railway network that**
29 **extends between Eugene and Portland; and**

30 (b) **Identify where to locate a high speed railway network to maximize any economic**

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 benefit that the network would have for Oregon.

2 (3) The task force may:

3 (a) Consider the potential economic impact for Oregon of developing a high speed railway
4 network that extends between Eugene and Vancouver, British Columbia;

5 (b) Study high speed rail investment opportunities;

6 (c) Study the capacity of a high speed railway network to transport freight and
7 commuters;

8 (d) Determine whether high speed rail is a safe means of transport;

9 (e) Identify available federal funds for developing a high speed railway network; and

10 (f) Consult with state agencies, consulting firms and railway companies, whether they
11 are located in this state or not, about the development of a high speed railway network.

12 (4) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction
13 of business.

14 (5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members
15 of the task force.

16 (6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

17 (7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
18 ment to become immediately effective.

19 (8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
20 or of a majority of the members of the task force.

21 (9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

22 (10) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations on developing a high
23 speed railway network between Eugene and Portland to an interim committee of the Legis-
24 lative Assembly related to transportation no later than October 1, 2010.

25 (11) The Department of Transportation shall provide staff support to the task force.

26 (12) Members of the task force are not entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed
27 for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of
28 their official duties in the manner and amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for ex-
29 penses shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the Department of Transportation for pur-
30 poses of the task force.

31 (13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
32 the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating
33 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force
34 consider necessary to perform their duties.

35 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2009 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the next
36 regular biennial legislative session.

37 **SECTION 3.** This 2009 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
38 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2009 Act takes effect
39 on its passage.

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