

REVENUE: Has minimal revenue impact

FISCAL: No Fiscal Impact

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

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Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: James LaBar, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/27

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Modifies the authority of the Department of Transportation to issue variance permits to operate self-loading log trucks. Authorizes the Department to issue a refund for payment of fuel taxes if a person pays both a fuel tax and a road assessment fee.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Road authorities and their designees are authorized to issue variance permits for vehicles and vehicle combinations that would otherwise violate statutes related to: vehicle size and/or weight limits; posted road size and/or weight limits; towing safety requirements; use of devices without wheels; use of metal objects on tires; operation without pneumatic tires; misuse of special left turn lanes or center lanes on three-lane roads; operation on bicycle trails; or failure to drive within a lane. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is also authorized to issue continuous operation variance permits. ORS 818.210 outlines limits to length, weight and number of axles for such vehicles; House Bill 2259 modifies these tables to allow for loads greater than 80,000 pounds, lengths up to 78 feet between first and last axle, and weights up to 105,000 pounds.