

Enrolled
House Bill 3149

Sponsored by Representatives SMITH DB, GOMBERG, BUEHLER; Representatives HEARD, HOLVEY, KENNEMER, MCKEOWN, WHISNANT, WILSON, WITT, Senators DEVLIN, HANSELL, ROBLAN

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to the Oregon Coast Trail; and prescribing an effective date.

Whereas 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of the Oregon Beach Bill, House Bill 1601 (1967), in which the Legislative Assembly established the public’s right to uninterrupted use of Oregon’s shoreline and beaches; and

Whereas the Oregon Coast Trail spans more than 350 miles of Oregon coastline from the south jetty of the Columbia River on the north to the Oregon-California border on the south, taking advantage of the publicly owned beaches and providing connections between the beaches; and

Whereas the State Parks and Recreation Division began development of the Oregon Coast Trail in 1971 and declared it hikeable in 1988, and the State Parks and Recreation Department has a target date of 2021 for completion of the trail system; and

Whereas numerous trail segments or “gaps” require trail users to walk along the shoulder of US Highway 101 or on other roads not designed for pedestrian use; and

Whereas closing the gaps in the Oregon Coast Trail system will increase the safety of trail users and motorists alike; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. (1) The State Parks and Recreation Department shall, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, other interested state agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations and other stakeholders, develop an action plan to complete the Oregon Coast Trail. The plan shall identify and address:

(a) A preferred option for the development, maintenance and operation of each new trail segment intended to address a gap in the trail system, including the costs associated with the development, maintenance and operation, that:

(A) Takes into account the existing uses of the land where trail segments are to be constructed, including public highway right-of-way, private or public ownership and active rail use;

(B) Ensures that the designation of trail segments will not conflict with surrounding private property rights, including rights of way and easements; and

(C) Takes into account the concerns of the public and other interested parties;

(b) Prioritization of new trail segment construction based on resulting improved safety, immediacy of implementation, potential project sponsors and sources of funding;

(c) Potential sources of funding for implementation of the plan, including but not limited to federal, state and private sources; and

(d) Options for designation of final state agency or other responsible entities for the development, maintenance and operation of the trail and trail facilities as identified in the plan.

(2) The State Parks and Recreation Department may coordinate with nonprofit organizations to raise funds and to develop, maintain and operate the trail and trail facilities as necessary to implement the plan.

(3) The State Parks and Recreation Department shall submit an annual report to the Legislative Assembly on the progress made toward developing and implementing the plan required by this section.

SECTION 2. This 2017 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2017 regular session of the Seventy-ninth Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

Passed by House July 5, 2017

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate July 7, 2017

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

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Approved:

.....M,....., 2017

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M,....., 2017

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Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State