

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

June 18, 2025

Agenda Item: 3b

Information

Public Comment Allowed: Yes

Topic: Legislative Update

Presented by: Katie Gauthier, Government Relations Manager

Background:

The 2025 legislative session is rapidly approaching anticipated sine die by the end of June. It has been a busy session for OPRD and we remain hopeful that agency priority bills will move forward.

Below is a summary of the status of legislation we are tracking that has the potential to impact the agency.

The following legislation was introduced on behalf of the agency:

Enacted Legislation- Passed Both Chambers and signed by the Governor

[HB 2232](#) transfers rulemaking authority for ATV sound levels from DEQ and certain off-road equipment from ODOT to OPRD. This bill was signed by the Governor on March 19 and included an emergency clause, so it is effective now.

[HB 2922](#) **Employee Address Disclosure** allows OPRD park rangers and park managers to participate in an existing program within DMV that allows them to exchange their home address with their office address within the DMV system if they choose. This passed both chambers unanimously and was signed by the Governor on May 8. It is effective January 1, 2026.

[HB 3190](#) reauthorizes the special assessment for historic properties program but limits it to commercial properties. Passed House unanimously and Senate (25-2). Signed by the Governor May 28. It is effective 91 days after sine die.

[SB 179](#) makes recreational immunity changes approved during the 2024 session permanent. Without legislation those changes would sunset. This bill passed the Senate and House unanimously and was signed by the Governor on May 28. It is effective January 1, 2026.

Waiting for Floor votes

[SB 838B](#) **Procurement Exemption**, exempts OPRD from procurement, except when related to surplus property or information technology, and printing requirements of other state executive

branch agencies. OPRD would develop procurement processes and procedures similar to other exempt agencies like Oregon Lottery or Oregon Travel Information Council. This bill passed the Senate unanimously and was approved unanimously by the House committee after an amendment was approved. It is scheduled for a vote on the House floor 5/29. If approved, the bill will then need to go back to the Senate for concurrence with the House amendment.

In Ways and Means Committee

HB 2925A- **Ocean Shore Permitting** aligns the OPRD permitting process with Department of State Lands by extending our timelines and adding more flexibility in the process to allow staff to work with applicants. It will also create a new category of permit for smaller less complicated projects and allow the agency to set fees in rule. It passed the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee and is in Ways and Means Committee, because it included rules around fees.

SB 565A was amended to require OPRD study financial sustainability and revenue and report back to the legislature in February 2026. The bill also transfers landscaping and maintenance responsibilities for the capitol mall back to DAS. This bill passed out of the Senate Natural Resources Committee and is in Ways & Means Committee.

SB 929A would appropriate \$100,000 in general fund and require the agency to dedicate \$1 million in lottery funding for the Oregon Coast Trail. This bill passed out of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee and is in Ways and Means.

In Joint Transportation Committee

HB 3122 directs OPRD to enter into negotiations with the BLM over establishing a fee for use of the road at Lake Owyhee Reservoir. The bill calls for us to work with county and road district, along with the federal agencies to set the fee and plan for road maintenance and infrastructure needs. This bill had a hearing in the Joint Transportation committee. The sponsor agreed to amend the bill to create a workgroup with OPRD as a participant. The bill is unlikely to move forward in its current form but may be amended to include these changes.

HB 3209 increases RV registration fees and creates a fund for disposal of abandoned RVs. This bill had a hearing in the Joint Transportation Committee.

Prior Action by Commission: The Commission approved moving forward with 2025 Legislative Concepts in April 2024.

Action Requested: none

Attachments: none

Prepared by: Katie Gauthier