

House Bill 3350

Sponsored by Representatives JOHNSON, HELM, BUEHLER; Senator PROZANSKI

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 Office of Outdoor Recreation within State Parks and Recreation Department. Creates Associate Director of Outdoor Recreation. Prescribes duties of office and of associate director.

Creates Outdoor Recreation Fund. Continuously appropriates moneys in fund to State Parks and Recreation Department for purposes of Office of Outdoor Recreation.

Becomes operative January 1, 2018.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to outdoor recreation; and declaring an emergency.

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

3 **SECTION 1. Sections 2 to 4 of this 2017 Act are added to and made a part of ORS chapter**
4 **390.**

5 **SECTION 2. (1) The Office of Outdoor Recreation is established as an administrative**
6 **section within the State Parks and Recreation Department, subject to the supervision of the**
7 **Associate Director for Outdoor Recreation and the policies and procedures established by,**
8 **and recommendations of, the State Parks and Recreation Director and the State Parks and**
9 **Recreation Commission.**

10 **(2) The office shall consist of the associate director and all personnel employed in the**
11 **office.**

12 **(3) Subject to subsection (1) of this section, the office shall, in furtherance of the state**
13 **policy declared in ORS 390.010:**

14 **(a) Coordinate outdoor recreation policy, outdoor recreation resource management ac-**
15 **tivities and the promotion of outdoor recreation:**

16 **(A) Within the administrative divisions of the department; and**

17 **(B) Between the department and federal, state, regional and local government entities**
18 **and nongovernmental entities.**

19 **(b) Assist in developing or updating the outdoor recreation management strategies of the**
20 **department.**

21 **(c) Collaborate with the Oregon Tourism Commission and the Travel Information Council**
22 **to create effective forums for communicating recreation-based initiatives and for sharing**
23 **best practices.**

24 **(d) Serve as a clearinghouse and information center for outdoor recreation stakeholders.**

25 **(e) Develop data, independently or through contracts with appropriate public or private**
26 **agencies, on the social, economic and resource impacts of outdoor recreation in this state.**

27 **(f) Promote the health and social benefits of outdoor recreation in coordination with**
28 **other related state programs and initiatives.**
29

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 (g) Report on the office's activities to the State Parks and Recreation Commission four
 2 times per year or as otherwise directed by the commission.

3 (4) The office shall coordinate and collaborate with the Oregon Business Development
 4 Department, representatives of regional and local governments, the outdoor recreation in-
 5 dustry and other outdoor recreation stakeholders to promote economic development in this
 6 state. In furtherance of promoting economic development, the office may recommend, adopt
 7 or assist in the implementation of policies and initiatives that:

8 (a) Encourage development of the outdoor recreation industry in a manner that improves
 9 recreational opportunities in this state.

10 (b) Maximize public and private investment in the outdoor recreation industry and in
 11 outdoor recreation activities in this state.

12 (c) Enhance quality of life and economic vibrancy in communities across the state.

13 (d) Strike a sensitive balance between development and preservation of the unique na-
 14 tural experience provided by Oregon's outdoor recreation resources, and between motorized
 15 and nonmotorized outdoor recreation activities.

16 (e) Take a proactive approach to enhancing regional and local outdoor recreation
 17 infrastructure.

18 (5) The office shall annually submit a report to the Legislative Assembly on the impacts
 19 of outdoor recreation in this state. The report required under this section may include:

20 (a) Other information about the office's activities; or

21 (b) Recommendations, which may include recommendations for legislation, on policies
 22 and initiatives that may be adopted by the legislature, the State Parks and Recreation De-
 23 partment or other state agencies to enhance the experiences of persons engaging in outdoor
 24 recreation in this state.

25 **SECTION 3.** (1) The State Parks and Recreation Director, upon consultation with and the
 26 approval of the State Parks and Recreation Commission, shall appoint an Associate Director
 27 of Outdoor Recreation to serve as the executive head of the Office of Outdoor Recreation
 28 within the State Parks and Recreation Department. The director and the commission shall
 29 appoint an individual well qualified by training and experience to serve for a term of four
 30 years unless sooner removed by the commission.

31 (2) The associate director shall receive such salary as may be prescribed by law. In ad-
 32 dition to salary, subject to applicable law regulating travel and expenses of a state officer,
 33 the associate director shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other expenses
 34 incurred in the performance of official duties.

35 (3) The associate director shall be responsible to the State Parks and Recreation Director
 36 and the State Parks and Recreation Commission for administration and enforcement of the
 37 duties, functions and powers imposed by law upon the office.

38 (4) The associate director shall convene an outdoor recreation advisory council to assist
 39 the office in carrying out its duties under section 2 of this 2017 Act. The advisory council
 40 shall be composed of members appointed by the associate director. When selecting the
 41 members of the committee, the associate director shall take into consideration geographic
 42 and demographic diversity and shall ensure that the committee has representatives of the
 43 outdoor recreation industry, the environmental community, the natural resources commu-
 44 nity, other outdoor recreation stakeholders and appropriate state, regional and local gov-
 45 ernmental entities.

1 **SECTION 4.** (1) The Outdoor Recreation Fund is established in the State Treasury, sep-
2 arate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Outdoor Recreation Fund
3 shall be credited to the fund. Moneys in the Outdoor Recreation Fund are continuously ap-
4 propriated to the State Parks and Recreation Department to be used:

5 (a) For implementation of the initiatives, programs and other activities of the Office of
6 Outdoor Recreation carried out pursuant to sections 2 and 3 of this 2017 Act; and

7 (b) To pay the administrative expenses of the Office of Outdoor Recreation.

8 (2) The Outdoor Recreation Fund consists of all moneys appropriated or transferred to
9 the fund and moneys received as gifts, grants or contributions from any source, whether
10 public or private.

11 (3) The Office of Outdoor Recreation may finance programs and projects determined to
12 further outdoor recreation or the outdoor recreation industry within this state by making
13 grants or loans using moneys in the fund.

14 **SECTION 5.** (1) Sections 2 to 4 of this 2017 Act become operative on January 1, 2018.

15 (2) The State Parks and Recreation Commission and the State Parks and Recreation Di-
16 rector may take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this sec-
17 tion to enable the commission and the director to exercise, on and after the operative date
18 specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred
19 on the commission and the director by sections 2 to 4 of this 2017 Act.

20 **SECTION 6.** This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
21 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect
22 on its passage.