

# Senate Bill 504

Sponsored by Senator SMITH DB (Pre-session filed.)

## 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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: This Act makes LCDC and OPRD adopt bioengineering rules to protect the coast. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.4).

Requires the Land Conservation and Development Commission to adopt rules by January 1, 2028, to allow soil bioengineering systems for shoreline stabilization. Allows the Department of State Lands and the State Parks and Recreation Department to adopt conforming rules by January 1, 2029.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to bioengineering for the protection of coastal resources.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) On or before January 1, 2028, the Land Conservation and Development**  
5 **Commission shall adopt rules that incorporate the allowance of soil bioengineering systems**  
6 **for shoreline stabilization in estuaries, coastal shorelands and the ocean shore by, at a min-**  
7 **imum:**

8 (a) **Adopting a definition of "soil bioengineering systems." The definition:**

9 (A) **Must include natural materials that are dynamic and absorb wave energy and are**  
10 **meant to mimic natural systems, including but not limited to trees, plants, logs, rocks, and**  
11 **woody debris.**

12 (B) **May not include structural methods of shoreline stabilization that are static and re-**  
13 **fect wave energy.**

14 (C) **Must be separate and distinct from existing rules and definitions for shoreline sta-**  
15 **bilization in estuaries, coastal shorelands and the ocean shore which include jetties,**  
16 **bulkheads, seawalls, riprap, beachfront protective structures and other similar protective**  
17 **structures.**

18 (b) **Requiring that soil bioengineering systems conform with statewide land use planning**  
19 **goals and that land use management practices and nonstructural solutions are prioritized**  
20 **over structural solutions in addressing problems of erosion and flooding.**

21 (2) **In adopting rules under this section the commission:**

22 (a) **Shall confer with the Department of State Lands, the Department of Transportation**  
23 **and the State Parks and Recreation Department;**

24 (b) **Shall appoint an advisory committee under ORS 183.333 that must include members**  
25 **who are coastal engineering professionals, representatives of environmental and recreational**  
26 **organizations, fish and wildlife professionals and local government officials; and**

27 (c) **May not substantively amend any process established by rule that allows the De-**  
28 **partment of Transportation to perform actions or undertake projects that use shoreline**  
29 **stabilization that includes structural methods, elements or solutions.**

**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        **SECTION 2. On or before January 1, 2029, the Department of State Lands and the State**  
2        **Parks and Recreation Department may adopt rules conforming or consistent with the rules**  
3        **adopted by the Land Conservation and Development Commission under section 1 of this 2025**  
4        **Act.**

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