

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass
<b>Vote:</b>	5 - 0 - 2
<b>Yeas:</b>	Berger, Edwards C., Holvey, Rosenbaum, Schaufler
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Esquivel, Smith P.
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	1/24, 2/9

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Expands scope of the Department of Consumer and Business Services electronic building codes information system. Requires department to make system available for use by municipalities administering and enforcing building inspection programs. Authorizes department to develop form and format for exchanging information through electronic building code information system. Exempts information exchanged through electronic building codes information system in form and format acceptable to department from form and format requirements for submission of information in physical form. Imposes surcharge on permits to defray cost of administering electronic system. Allows department to develop uniform building code information standards for municipalities administering and enforcing building inspection programs. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Timeline from first pilot project to current proposed model
- Support from wide range of organizations and local municipalities
- Work of the Statewide E-Permitting Workgroup and Statewide E-Permitting System Feasibility Task Force during the 2005-2007 interim
- Surcharge amounts
- Examples of how the online system is used
- Proposed model being looked at by numerous states
- System not only streamlines permitting process, but has the potential to speed economic recovery after natural disasters

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

**BACKGROUND:** SB 713 (2003) authorized the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) to identify the resources necessary to develop a statewide electronic permit system for all building inspection program permits by jurisdictions throughout Oregon. The e-permitting project was first targeted for the Portland Tri-County region, with other jurisdictions being invited to participate after the passage of HB 3097 (2005). HB 3097 also authorized the Building Codes Division (BCD) to plan for additional implementation stages of statewide interoperability.

Funding for the e-permitting system is defrayed by imposing a surcharge on permit fees, or if the applicant chooses to pay an hourly rate instead of purchasing a permit, a surcharge based upon the total hourly charges. DCBS is allowed to adopt rules to waive a portion of the surcharge if they determine that the amount collected exceeds the actual cost of developing and administering the system.

The BCD has structured the e-permitting system to be implemented and be sustainable with a 4% surcharge over the next 10 years, with a pledge for no rate changes to be made without stakeholder involvement and support.

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***This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.***