74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

REVENUE: No revenue impact **FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Atkinson, Bates, Beyer, Prozanski, Avakian

Nays: 0 **Exc.:** 0

Prepared By: Sue Marshall, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/12, 4/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs the Department of Energy to require that major facility projects be planned, designed, constructed and renovated to meet high performance building standards for energy efficiency and environmental sustainability, with some exceptions. Exempts affordable housing projects. Directs the Department of Energy, in cooperation with the Department of Administrative Services, to adopt necessary rules. Requires the department to report on energy performance of large facility projects. Creates a High Performance Building Advisory Committee within the department. Directs an interim committee of the Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly to review implementation of this Act and report to the Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 1, 2012.

MEASURE:

CARRIER:

SB 576 A

Sen. Atkinson

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Economic impact of Oregon's leadership in energy efficient design companies
- Energy and water saving potential through building design
- Whether there is a prohibitive cost impact on affordable housing projects
- Environmental impact of building operations
- Merits of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and Green Globe rating systems
- Whether there is a disincentive to use Oregon wood product under the LEED rating system

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Changes the definition of 'large facility project'. Raises the threshold for compliance to include projects that are larger than 10,000 square feet and have a value of more than \$4 million of state government financial participation. Removes the specific reference to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System and replaces it with generic energy efficacy rating criteria. Exempts affordable housing projects.

BACKGROUND: The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council and provides a list of standards for environmentally sustainable construction. The rating system includes, among other things, a reduction of energy consumption, which proponents believe will lead to a reduction in the emission of carbon dioxide that contributes to global climate change. Other rating systems, such as Green Globe, are similar but do not place the same restrictions on certified sustainably grown wood products.