

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. D. Edwards
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Monroe

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure as Amended and Be Printed B-Engrossed

Vote: 14 – 3 – 5

House

Yeas: Buckley, D. Edwards, Galizio, Gilman, Kotek, Nathanson, Shields

Nays: Richardson

Exc: Garrard, Hunt, Jenson, G. Smith

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Verger, Walker, Winters

Nays: Girod, Whitsett

Exc: Carter

Prepared By: Steve Bender, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 5, 2009

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Defines green jobs, directs the Oregon Workforce Investment Board and the Economic and Community Development Department to develop a Green Jobs Growth Initiative for creating and sustaining family-wage green jobs in Oregon, requires final green jobs growth plan to be submitted to the Legislature by January 2010, directs that Governor's discretionary funds be used to finance the initiative, declares emergency effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Purpose and need for the initiative
- Financing of the initiative
- Availability of Federal Funds to finance the initiative

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Requires the initiative's costs to be paid from discretionary funds available to the Governor. The effect of these amendments is that the initiative will be funded from federal Workforce Investment Act Title IB moneys available to the Employer Workforce Training Fund.

BACKGROUND: Green jobs – jobs in industries that focus on energy efficiency, renewable energy, and improving the natural environment – offer great economic promise for Oregon, but the state needs to take steps to ensure that these industries can thrive here. Two potential impediments to the growth of green industry jobs in this state are shortages of trained workers, and competition from other states for these same types of jobs. The state needs more information on the types of workers green job industries need, and on whether changes must be made in the workforce system to address these needs.