

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

Vote: 16 – 4 – 2

House

Yeas: Buckley, D. Edwards, Galizio, Jenson, Kotek, Nathanson, Shields, G. Smith

Nays: Garrard, Gilman, Richardson

Exc: Komp

Senate

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

Nays: Girod

Exc: Whitsett

Prepared By: Susie Jordan, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 11, 2009

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates a Task Force on Energy Performance Scores (Task Force). The measure requires the Governor to appoint 13 members to the Task Force and requires that they represent specific fields. It requires the Task Force to study and evaluate energy use in new and existing commercial and residential buildings. The measure requires the Task Force to develop recommendations regarding a voluntary energy performance scoring system for new and existing commercial and residential buildings in time for the State Department of Energy to adopt the recommendations by rule no later than July 1, 2010. It requires the Task Force to make recommendations regarding the implementation of a statewide mandatory energy performance scoring system for new and existing commercial and residential buildings. It directs Task Force to submit a report to an interim energy committee of the Legislature no later than October 1, 2010.

The measure requires that the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS), in consultation with the appropriate advisory boards, adopt, amend, and administer a reach code separate from the state building code. The measure defines “reach code” as a set of statewide optional construction standards and methods that are economically and technically feasible. The measure outlines process for adopting or amending the reach code. Requires a municipality administering and enforcing a building inspection program to recognize and accept the standard, method, installation, product, equipment, or device if a person applies it to the construction, reconstruction, alteration, or repair of a building in conformance with the reach code. The measure requires the Director of DCBS, subject to approval of the appropriate boards, to adopt rules establishing uniform energy conservation standards for inclusion under the state building code. The building codes section of the Act becomes operative January 1, 2010.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Merits of the bill

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: In 2007 the Legislature enacted a greenhouse gas reduction goal of being 10% below 1990 levels by 2020, and 75% below 1990 levels by 2050. Energy use in commercial and residential buildings is responsible for a significant portion of greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning in Oregon. In the spring of 2008, Governor Kulongoski established the Energy Efficiency Working Group with the goal of developing recommendations relating to energy efficiency in the built environment, which resulted in proposed legislation.