

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	3 - 2 - 0
Yeas:	Hass, Prozanski, Dingfelder
Nays:	Atkinson, Boquist
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Beth Herzog, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/5, 4/9, 4/14, 4/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs state agencies to use existing authorities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions immediately and to develop comprehensive planning to enable state to meet 2020 statutory goals. Requires that if it is not technologically or economically feasible to reach statutory goals, planning must be designed to achieve maximum feasible reductions. Establishes Climate Policy Advisory Council (Council) for the purpose of coordinating actions between agencies. Requires that Council consist of Director of Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Director of Department of Transportation (ODOT), chairperson of Public Utility Commission (PUC) and Director of Department of Energy (ODOE). Authorizes Council to: investigate, research, develop, and propose mechanisms for reducing greenhouse gas emissions for sectors of the economy for which agencies involved have authority; coordinate activities across economic sectors; cooperate with Department of Administrative Services to coordinate activities and assess agency greenhouse gas emission reduction activities; and inventory carbon reduction activities. Establishes that Council may appoint advisory committees to provide recommendations on forest and agriculture offsets, among other issues. Requires that when coordinating greenhouse gas emission reduction plans, Council must consider potential costs and benefits to the environment, public health, and economy as well as impact and opportunities associated with reduction measures. Requires Council report to the Legislative Assembly demonstrating reasons if it is determined that meeting greenhouse gas reduction emission goals is not in the state's best economic interest. Requires Council to submit a report to Legislative Assembly prior to January 1 of each odd-numbered year through 2019. Requires and stipulates procedures for PUC, ODOT, and DEQ to develop and implement plans within their existing authority. Requires that each governing body of a consumer-owned utility adopt and report plans to ODOE. Allows Environmental Quality Commission to adopt rules to require registration and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions. Establishes responsibilities for the Oregon Global Warming Commission. Includes provisions for whistle blowing protection. Declares an emergency; effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Oregon's leadership role in addressing climate change
- Flexibility to meet statutory goals
- Promotion of green jobs
- Additional concerns due to economic uncertainty
- Effect on Oregon businesses
- Alternative state and federal policy concepts to address climate change
- Effect on utility rates
- Carbon offsets
- International action

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND: Oregon is a participating member in the Western Climate Initiative (WCI) which provides a regional framework for reducing greenhouse gas emissions through a cap and trade program. The WCI framework allows participating members to develop strategies unique to their jurisdictions. The 2007 Legislative Assembly declared that it was the policy of the state to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon. They established the following goals: by 2010, arrest the growth of Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions and begin to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; by 2020, achieve greenhouse gas levels that are 10 percent below 1990 levels; and by 2050, achieve greenhouse gas levels that are at least 75 percent below 1990 levels.