

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	9 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Barton, Cameron, Esquivel, Holvey, Hoyle, Kennemer, Matthews, Witt, Schaufler
Nays:	Thatcher
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/5, 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes the Task Force on Regional Contract Preferences. Outlines task force membership, required activities, and operations. Requires the task force to submit a report to certain legislative committees no later than June 30, 2011. Directs Legislative Committee Services to provide staff support to the task force. Directs state agencies to assist the task force in performing their duties. Establishes a sunset date of July 1, 2011. Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Measure’s intent of seeking methods to increase the hiring of local labor, usage of regionally produced construction materials and resources, and reduction of carbon emissions from construction activity
- Conflicts between provisions in the original measure and current federal law
- Oregon’s role as a public contracting regulator and as a consumer
- Level of expertise required to develop the study’s components
- Fiscal impact of measure and proposed amendments
- Legality of utilizing the task force’s developed methodology and potential recommended legislation
- Definition of “regional”

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND: HB 3604 A establishes the Task Force on Regional Contract Preferences, which is charged to study ways in which Oregon, via public contracting, can encourage the construction industry to hire regional labor and make use of regionally produced construction materials, and remove barriers that prevent reductions in atmospheric carbon emissions. The task force is also directed to devise a methodology for analyzing the sources and extent of atmospheric carbon emissions from construction activity and the means for reducing atmospheric carbon emissions, and recommend pilot projects which are necessary to demonstrate the feasibility of the task force’s findings and recommendations.

The task force membership is comprised of three members per chamber; two construction laborer representatives and one construction contractor representative, appointed by the President of the Senate, and one construction laborer representative and two construction contractor representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House. The task force is required to submit a report, which can include recommendations for legislation, to legislative committees related to business, labor and transportation, no later than June 30, 2011.