

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Beyer, Gilliam, Krieger, Nolan, Roblan, VanOrman, Wingard, Clem
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Beth Herzog, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/2, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies provision that allows pre-1995 utility-owned certified low-impact hydroelectric facilities to qualify for compliance with Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to include facilities not owned by an electric utility that are located in Oregon and either licensed or exempted by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Authorizes that up to 40 average megawatts of electricity per year generated by non utility-owned certified low-impact hydroelectric facilities may be used to comply with RPS without regard to number of certified facilities or generating capacity of those facilities. Repeals amendments to RPS if Act is declared unconstitutional.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Creating economic incentive to extend life of projects in environmentally sound manner
- Older renewable projects are less expensive to rate payers than building new projects
- Criteria for certification from Low Impact Hydropower Institute

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Repeals amendments to RPS if Act is declared unconstitutional.

BACKGROUND: The Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requires that all utilities and electricity service suppliers serving Oregon load must include in their portfolio of power sold to retail customers a percentage of electricity generated from qualifying renewable energy sources. The percentage of qualifying electricity that must be included varies over time, with all utilities and suppliers obligated to include some renewably-generated electricity in their portfolio by the year 2025.