

**FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

**Measure: HB 3595 - A**

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2011 Regular Session  
Legislative Fiscal Office

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**Measure Description:**

Authorizes local government to conditionally approve siting of solar energy generation facilities when siting is within jurisdiction of local government and on farmland that is within area zoned for exclusive farm use and not high-value farmland.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:**

Department of Energy, Counties

**Summary of Expenditure Impact:** See Analysis

**Summary of Revenue Impact:** See Analysis

**Local Government Mandate:**

This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

**Analysis:**

The measure allows counties to conditionally approve siting of solar energy generation facilities under certain circumstances and clarifies when counties refer applications for solar energy generation facilities to the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE).

The timing and the number of application referrals is indeterminate. ODOE assumes the number of referrals to be minimal and plans to allocate the anticipated workload to existing staff. ODOE anticipates the cost for each application referral to be \$62,951 Other Funds. ODOE notes that these costs would be assessed to the applicant and that the revenue would off-set the expenditures.

The Legislative Fiscal Office notes that depending on the cumulative workload requirements added this session or possible budget reductions, ODOE may need to reprioritize other duties or the legislature may need to review staffing requirements in the future should this legislation pass.

There is a minimal fiscal impact to counties as a result of this measure.