

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	6 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Atkinson, Burdick, Edwards, Girod, Starr, Beyer
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Richard Berger, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/31

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Incorporates forest product industries into the green growth initiative. Instructs the Oregon Business Development Department to analyze growth factors and green jobs in forest product industries.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Mill closures and loss of jobs related to forest products
- Forest products relation to green industries such as paper recycling and biomass energy generation
- Sale of raw forest products overseas
- Need for a study on educational and skill standards in forest products industries
- Cost vs. applicability of proposed study

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** House Bill 2840 changes the term “timber” to “forest products” and expands the definition to include businesses that grow, manage, harvest, transport, or process wood and paper products. House Bill 2840 instructs the Oregon Workforce Investment Board (OWIB) to analyze the key growth factors for green jobs in the forest products industry and the educational and skill standards required for these green occupations. Additionally, the measure requires the Board to use this analysis, in consultation with the Governor’s education and workforce policy advisor, to identify those forest industries that create high-demand green forest products.

OWIB is the overall advisory board to the Governor on workforce matters and is comprised of leaders representing private sector businesses, labor, state, local governments and government agencies. A majority of the members represent the private sector. In the 2009 Legislative Session, the Legislative Assembly directed OWIB to develop a Green Jobs Growth Plan for the state. In order to carry out this charge, the Governor convened a high level Green Jobs Council as a committee of the Board. The preliminary plan was submitted to the Legislative Assembly in January of 2010, and the final plan was completed in October, 2010.