

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Tax Credits
<b>Vote:</b>	8 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Bailey, Bentz, Boone, Krieger, Thompson, Witt, Cannon, Gilliam
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Liz Puskar, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/7, 4/12, 4/19, 4/21

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Expands definition of “recycling facility” in ORS 469.185 to include equipment used for processing waste plastic into synthetic crude oil. Specifies that conversion of waste plastic that cannot be economically recycled to oil using pyrolysis be considered recycling. Effective on 91<sup>st</sup> day after sine die.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Benefits of pyrolysis process
- End uses for agricultural plastic that cannot be recycled into new plastic material
- Current statutory and regulatory framework applicable to pyrolysis and recycling plastics

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces measure.

**BACKGROUND:** Pyrolysis is the beginning of a process by which organic compounds, including some plastics, are broken down into smaller molecules. Depending on the technology employed, the end result of the process can be synthetic crude oil. In 1991, the Legislative Assembly expanded Oregon’s recycling statutes to include a number of requirements relating to rigid plastic containers. The current law does not explicitly address whether converting waste plastic to synthetic crude oil qualifies as “recycling.” A 1993 opinion by the Oregon Department of Justice indicates that pyrolysis would not constitute “recycling” unless the resulting product was a direct substitute for plastic. House Bill 3597A would establish that waste plastics converted to synthetic crude oil by pyrolysis will qualify as recycling.