

House Bill 2840

Sponsored by Representative WITT (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Expands green jobs growth initiative to include analysis of growth factors and employment projections for green jobs in forest products industries. Requires State Workforce Investment Board to identify forest products industries to be classified as high-demand green industries. Requires Oregon Business Development Department to include forest products industries when developing criteria for investment in green economy industries.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to green jobs in forest products industries; amending ORS 660.355, 660.358 and 660.364.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 660.355 is amended to read:

5 660.355. As used in ORS 660.355 to 660.364:

6 (1) "Green job" means a job that provides a service or produces a product that:

7 (a) Increases energy efficiency;

8 (b) Produces renewable energy;

9 (c) Prevents, reduces or mitigates environmental degradation;

10 (d) Cleans up and restores the natural environment; or

11 (e) Provides education, consultation, policy promotion, accreditation, trading and offsets or sim-
12 ilar supporting services for any of the activities identified in this subsection.

13 (2) "Targeted population" means:

14 (a) Entry level or similar workers in high demand green job careers who are in or preparing for
15 high wage green jobs;

16 (b) Dislocated workers in declining industries who are in or are seeking training for high wage
17 green jobs;

18 (c) Dislocated workers in the [*timber*] **forest products**, agricultural or energy sectors who are
19 in or are seeking training for high wage green jobs;

20 (d) Veterans who are residents of Oregon or members of the Oregon National Guard; or

21 (e) Members of disadvantaged groups.

22 **SECTION 2.** ORS 660.358 is amended to read:

23 660.358. (1) The State Workforce Investment Board, in consultation with the Governor, the Ed-
24 ucation and Workforce Policy Advisor and other parties deemed appropriate by the board and after
25 consideration of the clean energy and energy efficiency policies of this state, shall develop a plan
26 for a green jobs growth initiative to promote the development of emerging technologies and inno-
27 vations that lead to, create or sustain family wage green jobs.

28 (2) The plan for the initiative developed by the board shall:

29 (a) Identify industries that are high demand green industries based on current and projected
30 creation of family wage green jobs and the potential for career pathways created for such jobs.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (b) Use the needs of identified high demand green industries as the basis for the planning of
 2 workforce development activities that promote the development of emerging green technologies and
 3 innovations. These activities include, but are not limited to, such efforts undertaken by community
 4 colleges, the institutions of the Oregon University System, designated signature research centers,
 5 registered apprenticeship programs and other private sector training programs.

6 (c) Leverage and align existing public workforce development programs and other public and
 7 private resources to the goal of recruiting, supporting, educating and training of targeted popu-
 8 lations of workers.

9 (d) Require the board to work collaboratively with stakeholders from business, labor and low
 10 income advocacy groups in the regional economy to develop and implement the initiative.

11 (e) Link adult basic and remedial education programs with job training for skills necessary for
 12 green jobs.

13 (f) Require the board to collaborate with employers and labor organizations to identify skills and
 14 competencies necessary for green job career pathways.

15 (g) Ensure that support services are integrated with education and training for green jobs and
 16 that such services are provided by organizations with direct access to and experience with targeted
 17 populations.

18 **(h) Include an analysis of occupations in the forest products industry to:**

19 **(A) Determine key growth factors and employment projections for green jobs in the for-**
 20 **est products industry; and**

21 **(B) Define the educational and skill standards required for current and emerging green**
 22 **occupations in the forest products industry.**

23 **(3) Based on the analysis conducted under subsection (2)(h) of this section, the State**
 24 **Workforce Investment Board, in consultation with the Education and Workforce Policy Ad-**
 25 **visor, shall identify those forest products industries to be classified as high-demand green**
 26 **industries, taking into consideration current and future job creation and the strategic im-**
 27 **portance of the development of high-demand green forest products industry jobs to the de-**
 28 **velopment and growth of the state’s green economy.**

29 **(4) As used in this section, “forest products industry” includes, but is not limited to,**
 30 **businesses that grow, manage, harvest, transport or process forest, wood and paper pro-**
 31 **ducts.**

32 **SECTION 3.** ORS 660.364 is amended to read:

33 660.364. The Oregon Business Development Department, in consultation with the State
 34 Workforce Investment Board, shall:

35 (1) Develop criteria for existing investments and new or expanded financial incentives and
 36 comprehensive strategies to recruit, retain and expand green economy industries, **including but not**
 37 **limited to forest products industries as defined in ORS 660.358**, and small businesses.

38 (2) Make recommendations for new or expanded financial incentives and comprehensive strate-
 39 gies to stimulate research and development of green technology and innovation.

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