

House Bill 3276

Sponsored by Representative BENTZ

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**.

Requires state agencies that own motor vehicles to acquire only motor vehicles that use natural gas as fuel and to convert state-owned motor vehicles to motor vehicles that use natural gas as fuel.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to natural gas as fuel for state-owned vehicles; amending ORS 283.305, 283.327 and 283.337.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** ORS 283.305 is amended to read:

4 283.305. As used in ORS 283.305 to 283.350:

5 [(1) "*Alternative fuel*" means natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, methanol, ethanol, any fuel
6 mixture containing at least 85 percent methanol or ethanol and electricity.]

7 [(2)] (1) "Authorized driver" means any of the following who has a valid driver license and an
8 acceptable driving record:

9 (a) A salaried state employee, including an agent of the state;

10 (b) A volunteer, appointed in writing, whose written description of duties includes driving motor
11 vehicles;

12 (c) An agency client required to drive motor vehicles as part of a rehabilitation or treatment
13 program authorized by law;

14 (d) Any personnel of any unit of government whose use of motor vehicles is permitted by an
15 authorized intergovernmental agreement;

16 (e) Any student enrolled at any state institution of higher education and whose use of motor
17 vehicles meets the requirements of ORS 283.310; and

18 (f) An inmate of a correctional institution with specific Department of Corrections approval who
19 is accompanied by a supervising correctional institution employee or who is performing a specific
20 work assignment driving a special purpose vehicle required for that assignment and within the vis-
21 ual range of a supervising correctional institution employee who is at the work assignment site or
22 who is part of the transport caravan.

23 [(3)] (2) "Motor vehicles" includes state-owned, leased or otherwise controlled motor vehicles
24 and the supplies, parts and equipment for the operation, maintenance or repair of such motor vehi-
25 cles.

26 [(4)] (3) "Official state business" means activity conducted by a state agency that advances the
27 lawful policies of the agency as specified by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services by
28 rule.

29 [(5)] (4) "Standard passenger vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is commonly known as a sedan
30 or a station wagon and that is not equipped with special or unusual equipment.
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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 [(6)] (5) “State agency” or “agency” includes the Legislative Assembly, at its option, or any of
2 its statutory, standing, special or interim committees, at the option of such committee.

3 **SECTION 2.** ORS 283.327 is amended to read:

4 283.327. (1) *[To the maximum extent economically possible,]* State-owned motor vehicles shall use
5 *[alternative]* **natural gas as fuel** for operation.

6 (2) State agencies shall acquire only motor vehicles capable of using *[alternative]* **natural gas**
7 **as fuel**, *except that acquired vehicles assigned to areas unable economically to dispense alternative fuel*
8 *need not be so configured]* **and shall convert state-owned motor vehicles that do not use natural**
9 **gas as fuel into motor vehicles that use natural gas as fuel.**

10 (3) Each agency *[owning]* **that owns** motor vehicles shall comply with all safety standards es-
11 tablished by the United States Department of Transportation in the conversion, operation and
12 maintenance of vehicles *[using alternative]* **that use natural gas as fuel.**

13 *[(4) To the maximum extent economically possible, state-owned structures shall use biofuel, or*
14 *direct-application electricity generated from biofuel, where diesel is currently utilized for stationary or*
15 *back-up generation.]*

16 **SECTION 3.** ORS 283.337 is amended to read:

17 283.337. Prior to December 31 of each year, each agency *[owning]* **that owns** motor vehicles
18 shall submit an annual report to the Department of Environmental Quality and the State Depart-
19 ment of Energy. The report shall contain at a minimum:

20 (1) The number of vehicles acquired that are capable of using *[alternative]* **natural gas as fuel**;

21 (2) The number of vehicles converted from the use of gasoline to the use of *[alternative]* **natural**
22 **gas as fuel**;

23 (3) The quantity of *[each type of alternative fuel]* **natural gas used as fuel**; and

24 (4) Any other information required by the Department of Environmental Quality and the State
25 Department of Energy.

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