

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	6 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Atkinson, Burdick, Edwards, Girod, Starr, Beyer
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Patrick Brennan, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/9, 2/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Revises requirement that contracting agencies include an amount in contracts for construction, reconstruction or major renovation of public buildings equivalent to 1.5 percent of the total contract price for the inclusion of solar technologies to allow for inclusion of geothermal electricity generation or direct use of geothermal energy.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- State of the solar industry
- Lake County Hospital geothermal project

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces definition of “green energy” in measure with geothermal electricity generation or direct use of geothermal energy that reduces the use of energy generated by other sources by at least 20 percent or solar electricity generation, solar thermal generation or passive solar generation (provided the passive solar generation reduces use of energy generated by other sources by at least 20 percent).

BACKGROUND: House Bill 2620 (2007) instituted a requirement that all public building construction and reconstruction projects with a total contract price of at least \$1 million include solar technologies. The investment in solar technology for public buildings must be a minimum of 1.5 percent of the total contract price and may include solar electric or solar thermal systems, including passive solar if it can achieve an energy consumption reduction of at least 20 percent. The solar energy system requirement also applies to renovation projects that exceed \$1 million and 50 percent of the total building value. Contracting agencies are required to prepare a written determination of whether a solar energy system is appropriate for the building using a standard form developed by the Oregon Department of Energy.

Senate Bill 1533-A revises the existing requirement for solar technologies by allowing for the use of geothermal energy or geothermal electricity generation to satisfy the 1.5 percent requirement.