

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	6 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	Bentz, Boone, Keny-Guyer, Witt, Bailey, Gilliam
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Krieger, Thompson
Prepared By:	Beth Patrino, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/23

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:

- Use of locally available energy resources such as geothermal
- Standard to measure 20 percent energy reduction
- Rulemaking to address when use of green energy technology is not feasible

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Revises definition of “green energy technology” to mean geothermal or solar energy that reduces energy use from other sources by at least 20 percent from a level otherwise specified by law. Establishes criteria for sources away from site of public building.

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 1533B would allow for the use of geothermal energy or geothermal electricity generation to satisfy the existing statutory requirement that contracting agencies include 1.5 percent in the total contract price for inclusion of solar technologies in construction or renovation of public buildings.