



TO: House Committee on Energy and Environment

FROM: Jess Kincaid, Policy Analyst
Marty Stipe, Facilities Engineer III
Oregon Department of Energy, Planning, Policy, & Technical Analysis Division

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SUBJECT: SB 692A- Engrossed – Appliance Standards

INTRODUCTION

Senate Bill 692-1 proposes to add certain battery chargers, televisions, plumbing fixtures, and light bulbs to existing Oregon statute. The proposed changes are a continuation of the development of appliance standards in Oregon. The changes attempt to align with appliance standards both regionally in California and Washington, as well as with other states nationwide.

DISCUSSION

States are allowed to establish energy efficiency standards for products not regulated by federal standards. Consistent with standards adopted in several other states, the 2005 and 2007 Oregon Legislature established minimum energy efficiency standards for a suite of appliances. Relevant statutes, which include the standards, are found in ORS 469.229 through ORS 469.261.

The Oregon Department of Energy has adopted Administrative Rules to administer the standards. The rules include testing, certification and labeling requirements. There also exists a publicly-accessible database called the Multi-State Compliance System that lists certified equipment. Manufacturers can list their equipment on the database and states (including Oregon) can certify the equipment that complies with Oregon statute and rule.

Senate Bill 692A proposes to add standards for a range of large and small battery chargers. These provisions are very similar to related battery charger standards in place in California. These are used in connection with many personal items containing rechargeable batteries. Provisions have been added to accommodate transitions in the repair and replacement markets. The bill addresses television energy consumption, setting limits on energy use both in operation and standby modes. The proposed television standards are modeled after those in California, with the exception that the screen size limitation was removed. Senate Bill 692A also covers some light bulbs, invoking an efficiency standard for one style of halogen bulb. The implementation of the halogen light bulb standard is designed to coordinate with regional implementation efforts. The bill addresses certain plumbing fixtures, but an

agreement was reached during work group meetings in the Senate Energy and Environment Committee to remove the plumbing fixture language and that is now contained in SB 840.

The proposed appliance standards that are addressed in Senate Bill 692A have been supported by efforts of the Pacific Coast Collaborative. This organization is a collaborative of government staff from Oregon, Washington, California, and British Columbia, working together with the intention of collaborating on regional energy efficiency standards. Appliance energy efficiency standards help make energy efficient equipment and energy cost savings available to Oregonians. The standards development work is also supported by the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance and the Appliance Standards Awareness Project. These organizations create model language for regional and national use that lead the way for more effective development of federal standards.

SUMMARY

Senate Bill 692A proposes to add some specific battery chargers, televisions, light bulbs, and plumbing fixtures to Oregon's existing appliance standard statutes. The bill proposes changes that are in alignment with neighboring states in an effort to provide a regional standard that will help Oregonians save energy and energy costs.

SB 692A-Engrossed – Establishes minimum energy efficiency standards for certain products. Prohibits sale or installation of products that do not meet standards.

Summary/Background – This bill proposes to add products to Oregon’s appliance standards statute. Products include battery chargers, televisions, plumbing fixtures, and some specific electric lamps (i.e. “light bulbs”). The changes are designed to align with California, Washington, and British Columbia appliance standards. Collaboration is organized through efforts of the Pacific Coast Collaborative (OR, WA, CA, and British Columbia), the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, and the Appliance Standards Awareness Project (national) programs.

Section 1 – Definitions (page 1)

Existing ORS 469.229 is amended.

This section adds definitions related to battery chargers and televisions. The definitions help clarify the scope of the equipment affected and the terms used in establishing the energy efficiency standards. Amendments have added definitions to further align with existing California standards language.

Section 2 – Definitions (page 6)

Existing ORS 469.229 is amended.

This section adds definitions related to certain plumbing fixtures and one specific electric lamps. Again, these definitions clarify the scope of the equipment affected and the terms used in establishing the energy efficiency standards. This section is presented separate from Section 1 due to a different proposed date of effectiveness.

Section 3 – Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (page 11)

Existing ORS 469.233 is amended.

This section adds standards to television operation and energy use. Televisions would be required to go into standby use after a period of non-use (i.e. the DVD player turns off) and also set the limits on energy consumption for both standby and operational periods. The section also sets standards on the energy efficiency of the wide variety of battery chargers used for charging retail devices. (e.g. phones, radios, and shavers, up to golf cart battery chargers.) The bill addresses the effective date of the various types of equipment.

Section 4 – Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (page 19)

Existing ORS 469.233 is amended.

This section adds the efficiency standards for high output double-ended quartz halogen lamps. This type of lamp is commonly used in wall-mounted outdoor commercial lighting. This section also adds the efficiency standards for certain plumbing fixtures including flush valves for toilets, urinals, and lavatory faucets, setting the maximum flow rates or gallons used. There are both water and energy savings for standards of this nature.

Sections 5 and 6 – Sale (page 28)

Existing ORS 469.238 is amended.

Section 5 adds televisions and battery chargers to the list of equipment that must comply with the energy efficiency standards of ORS 469.233 in order to be sold in Oregon. Section 6 then adds the plumbing fixtures and a specific light bulb to the same list in ORS 469.238. This is structured in two sections to facilitate a different effective date.

Sections 7 and 8 – Installation (page 29)

Existing ORS 469.239 is amended.

Section 7 adds televisions and battery chargers to the list of equipment that must comply with the energy efficiency standards of ORS 469.233 in order to be installed in Oregon. Section 8 then adds specific plumbing fixtures and a specific light bulb to the same list in ORS 469.239. This is structured in two sections to facilitate a different effective date.

Miscellaneous

Section 9 – (page 29)

Unit captions are only for the convenience of the reader.

Section 10 – (page 30)

This section addresses the effective date of certain sections of the bill.

- The changes in this bill would normally take effect for televisions and most battery charges on the effective date of this bill, January 1, 2014.
- The changes related to the plumbing fixtures and electric light bulbs would become effective January 1, 2016.
- The small group of non-retail battery chargers sold for replacement or repair would be required to comply with the efficiency standards effective July 1, 2017.