



SB 692-1 – 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 plumbing fixtures, televisions, battery chargers, 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 certain plumbing fixtures, battery chargers, and televisions. The definitions help clarify the scope of the equipment affected and the terms used in establishing the energy efficiency standards.

Section 2 – Definitions (page 1)

Existing ORS 469.229 is amended.

This section adds definitions related to some 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 8)

Existing ORS 469.233 is amended.

This section adds the efficiency standards for certain plumbing fixtures setting the maximum flow rates or gallons used. There are both water and energy savings for standards of this nature. The 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 set 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 16)

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 a provision that would prohibit the manufacture of a general purpose mercury vapor lamp in Oregon.

Sections 5 and 6 – Sale

Existing ORS 469.238 is amended.

Section 5 adds specific plumbing fixtures, 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 a specific light bulb to the same list in ORS 469.233.

Sections 7 and 8 – Installation

Existing ORS 469.239 is amended.

Section 7 adds specific plumbing fixtures, 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 a specific light bulb to the same list in ORS 469.233.

Section 9 – Miscellaneous

Unit captions are only for the convenience of the reader.

Section 10 – Miscellaneous

The changes in this bill would take effect for plumbing fixtures, televisions, and most battery charges on the effective date of this bill, January 1, 2014. The changes related to the 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.



TO: Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee

FROM: John Audley, Division Administrator
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Date: March 11, 2013

SUBJECT: SB 692-1 – Appliance Standards

INTRODUCTION

Senate Bill 692-1 proposes to add certain plumbing fixtures, battery chargers, televisions, 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 692-1 proposes to add standards for the water control valves associated with sinks, toilets, and urinals to limit water usage. This saves both water and the associated energy costs of pumping, heating, and treatment. These provisions are similar to related appliance standards in place in California and currently proposed in Washington. The bill proposed to add a range of large and small battery chargers. 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. These provisions are similar to related appliance standards in place in California and proposed in Washington. 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 692-1 also covers some light bulbs,

invoking an efficiency standard for one style of halogen bulb, and also limiting production of mercury vapor lamps in Oregon. The implementation of the halogen light bulb standard is designed to coordinate with regional implementation efforts.

The proposed appliance standards that are addressed in Senate Bill 692-1 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 692-1 proposes to add some specific plumbing fixtures, battery chargers, televisions, and light bulbs 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.