

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	8 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Barnhart, Berger, Dembrow, Hicks, Holvey, Jenson, Kennemer, Garrett
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Hoyle
Prepared By:	Erin Seiler, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Expands mission of Fujian Sister State Committee to allow for organization of visits, exchange of information, work on joint projects and promotion of economic development with all provinces of People’s Republic of China. Changes name of sister state committee to Oregon-China Sister State Committee, to reflect expanded missions. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Relationship between Oregon and provinces of People’s Republic of China
- Expansion of sister state relationship
- Development of new economic and educational opportunities in additional provinces
- Successful joint projects between Fujian Province and Oregon

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 16 (2001) provided for the establishment of sister state committees to interact in sister state relationships. Oregon currently has sister state relationships with four states: Fujian Province, People’s Republic of China (1984); Taiwan Provincial Government, Republic of China (1985); Toyama Prefecture, Japan (1991); and Jeollanam-do Province, Republic of Korea (1996). The Legislative Assembly itself also maintains a sister relationship with Honduras (1991) and the Parliament of the German State of Lower Saxony (1991). Sister state committees are authorized to host visiting delegations from the sister state, participate in delegations to the sister state, provide for the exchange of information, and work jointly on projects.

In 2007, House Bill 2066 established the Joint Fujian Sister State Committee, separate from other sister state committees, in order to increase commerce, tourism and educational ties between Oregon and Fujian. As sister states, the leaders of both Fujian and Oregon are committed to enhance and encourage greater economic, cultural and educational interaction for the benefit of both states. The Fujian Sister State Committee is responsible for organizing activities for and hosting visiting delegations from Fujian Province, developing activities for and participation in delegations visiting Fujian Province and China, the exchange of information between the State of Oregon and Fujian Province, and working with representatives of Fujian Province on joint projects.

House Bill 3023 expands the mission of Fujian Sister State Committee to allow for organization of visits, exchange of information, work on joint projects and promotion of economic development with all provinces of People’s Republic of China. The measure also changes the name of the committee to Oregon-China Sister State Committee to reflect the expanded mission.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.