

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference

Vote: 5 - 4 - 0

Yeas: Boone, Dembrow, Reardon, Vega Pederson, Bailey

Nays: Bentz, Johnson, Weidner, Whitsett

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Adam Crawford, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/11, 4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Defines ‘major hazardous air pollutant (HAP) source,’ ‘toxic air pollutant,’ and ‘toxics reduction plan.’ Adds release of toxic air pollutants to criteria Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) must consider when determining priority in providing technical assistance to toxics users and conditionally exempt generators. Creates requirements on toxics reduction plan for major HAP sources, including internal analysis and periodic assessment of individual processes, identification of opportunities to reduce or eliminate generation of toxic air pollutants and employee awareness and training programs. Requires toxics user that is major HAP source and that has previously developed toxics reduction plan that does not address toxic air pollutants to amend plan within 120 days after notification by DEQ. Requires toxics users to notify DEQ when plan is in place.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Existing Oregon regulatory environment
- Air pollution sources in Oregon
- Portland Air Toxics Solution Group
- Air quality issues around Portland schools

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Air toxics include diesel soot, benzene, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (tar-like by-products from auto exhaust and other sources commonly called PAHs), and metals including manganese, nickel, and lead. Air toxics come from a variety of sources including cars and trucks, all types of burning including burning wood in fireplaces and woodstoves, businesses and industries of all sizes, and consumer products such as solvents and pesticides. House Bill 3492 would require major hazardous air pollutant sources to create a plan to analyze internal processes and determine if there are any cost-effective ways to lessen or avoid completely the generation of toxic air pollutants.