

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Baertschiger, Burdick, Close, Prozanski, Roblan
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Racquel Rancier, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/7

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 exports and investments with all provinces of People’s Republic of China. Changes name of Fujian Sister State Committee to Oregon-China Sister State Committee to reflect expanded mission. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Relationship with Fujian Province and China
- Potential to expand relationship with City of Tianjin and other provinces of People’s Republic of China
- Benefits to trade and Oregon economy

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: 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).

In 2007, House Bill 2066 established the Fujian Sister State Committee, in order to increase commerce, tourism and educational ties between Oregon and Fujian. The Fujian Sister State Committee is responsible for hosting visiting delegations from the Fujian Province, participating in visits to the Fujian Province and China, exchanging information between the State of Oregon and Fujian Province, working with representatives of the Fujian Province on joint projects, and taking actions to coordinate relations.

House Bill 3023 expands the Fujian Sister State Committee mission beyond the Fujian Province to all provinces of the People’s Republic of China to allow for the organization of visits, exchange of information, work on joint projects, and the promotion of Oregon exports and Chinese investments in Oregon. In accordance with the expanded mission, the measure changes the name of the committee to Oregon-China Sister State Committee.