

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

House Committee on Consumer Protection and Government Effectiveness

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Wendy Simons, Administrator

Meeting Dates:

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires contract for public improvement to require contractor to use biodegradable lubricants in operations related to contract. Requires contractor have similar requirement for subcontractors. Requires Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) by rule to specify standards for biodegradable lubricants, considering at a minimum impacts on water quality in determining which lubricants are biodegradable. Operative January 1, 2016. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendments.

BACKGROUND: Biodegradable lubricants exist for many applications and their use is required in certain environmentally sensitive areas. They are generally more expensive than petroleum-based lubricants, although requiring less costly remediation in the case of spills and leaks. House Bill 3052 requires contractors and their subcontractors on public improvement projects to use biodegradable lubricants. The bill also requires Oregon DEQ to specify standards for biodegradable lubricants, taking into account water quality impacts, and allows DEQ to list or recommend specific lubricants meeting the standards.