

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/23/16

Action: Do Pass The A-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 02/23

Vote:

House

Yeas: 12 - Buckley, Gomberg, Huffman, Komp, McLane, Nathanson, Rayfield, Read, Smith, Whisnant, Whitsett, Williamson

Senate

Yeas: 10 - Bates, Devlin, Girod, Hansell, Johnson, Monroe, Roblan, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Thomsen

Exc: 2 - Whitsett, Winters

Prepared By: John Terpening, Budget Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Office of Emergency management to develop and administer a grant program for the purpose of installing connectors at certain fuel storage facilities that are compatible with generators used by emergency response personnel. This would allow the withdrawal of fuel by specified personnel from certain fuel storage facilities in an emergency. The measure limits each grant to \$4,000 per facility and the total grants awarded to \$100,000. Requires Fire Marshall to check installation of connectors financed by grant funds, as part of existing annual inspections already performed. Sunsets June 30, 2022. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fiscal impact of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In a catastrophic disaster such as an earthquake along the Cascadia subduction zone, infrastructure and utilities, including electricity and liquid fuel lines, will be destroyed or incapacitated. Emergency response personnel may be limited to whatever fuel they have immediately on-hand, which could be exhausted within the first one to three days. Liquid fuel is stored in various facilities located across the state, in varying capacities, both above and below ground, and energy is required to pump the fuel out. Many emergency response entities possess generators that could be used to pump fuel out of a storage facility during a power outage, but not all generators are capable of connecting to all fuel storage tanks.

Senate Bill 1523 is the product of work group activity that included private fuel companies, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). It enables OEM to develop a grant program to target large-capacity fuel storage locations along critical routes, and distribute funds to install connectors that are compatible with generators used by specific personnel during an emergency.