

HB 2748 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Energy and Environment

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/8, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies sources of moneys deposited in Residential Solid Fuel Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund. Requires Department of Environmental Quality to prioritize allocation of grants, loans or other subsidies under solid fuel burning device replacement or removal program to be used in nonattainment areas for particulate matter or areas at substantial risk of being designated nonattainment areas for particulate matter.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Authorizes Residential Solid Fuel Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund to be used to fund programs for replacing or removing uncertified solid fuel burning devices. Requires Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to design program to reduce emission of air contaminants by providing rebates for the replacement or removal of uncertified solid fuel burning devices. Clarifies restriction on types of allowable high-efficiency heating systems to include systems determined by DEQ. Removes attainment requirement for prioritization of eligibility. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

BACKGROUND:

Smoke created from wood burning can be a significant source of air pollution and can have health consequences for those with asthma, respiratory or heart conditions, or other illnesses. Under current law, if you're buying or selling a home with a wood stove or fireplace insert in Oregon, you must ensure it was certified to meet emissions performance standards at the time of manufacture. If it was not certified, state law requires it to be removed, destroyed and disposed of when a home is sold. In 2009, the Legislature established the Residential Solid Fuel Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund (Fund). The Department of Environmental Quality was directed to use the Fund to reduce the emission of air contaminants by providing grants, loans or other subsidies for the replacement or removal of non-certified solid fuel burning devices.