

HB 2748 -A4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 5/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies sources of moneys deposited in Residential Solid Fuel Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund (Fund) to include moneys received from any public or private source. Expands allowable use of money in Fund to include 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 as determined by Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Requires DEQ to prioritize allocation of grants, loans, rebates or other subsidies under solid fuel burning device replacement or removal program to be used in nonattainment areas due to particulate matter or areas at substantial risk of being designated a nonattainment area due to particulate matter. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

House Vote: Passed. Ayes, 54; Nays, 4--Barnhart, Holvey, Lively, Nathanson; Excused, 2--Boone, Lewis.

No fiscal impact, minimal revenue impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A4 Replaces measure. Modifies sources of moneys deposited in Residential Solid Fuel Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund (Fund) to include moneys received from any public or private source. Expands allowable use of money in Fund to include 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 as determined by Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Adds as allowed use of money in Residential Solid Fuel Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund program designed to reduce emission of air contaminants from solid fuel burning devices by providing grants, loans, rebates or other subsidies to make dry wood or cleaner fuels available to communities or individuals. Requires DEQ to prioritize allocation of grants, loans, rebates or other subsidies under solid fuel burning device replacement or removal program to be used in nonattainment areas due to particulate matter or areas at substantial risk of being designated a nonattainment area due to particulate matter. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

Smoke created from wood burning can be a significant source of air pollution and can have health consequences for individuals with asthma, respiratory or heart conditions, or other illnesses. Under current law, anyone buying or selling a home with a wood stove or fireplace insert in Oregon 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 Legislative Assembly 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.

House Bill 2748A would modify the Residential Solid Fuel Heating Air Quality Improvement Fund (Fund) to include moneys received from any public or private source and expand the use of the Fund to include the issuance of rebates for the replacement or removal of uncertified solid fuel burning devices. The Act also requires the prioritization of

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grants, loans or other subsidies to be used in nonattainment areas due to particulate matter or areas at substantial risk of being designated nonattainment due to particulate matter.

PRELIMINARY