

SB 112 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Business and Transportation

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Meeting Dates: 2/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires that carbon monoxide alarm be installed in enclosed structures that have one or more carbon monoxide sources and are occupied and used as a food service facility or for-profit business. Specifies that requirement does not apply to residential structures.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that more than 400 Americans die each year from unintentional carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning that are not linked to fires, while an additional 20,000 visit the emergency room and 4,000 are hospitalized for CO poisoning. Carbon monoxide is produced by vehicle engines and fuel-burning stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges and furnaces. Symptoms of CO poisoning include headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain and confusion. Persons exposed to carbon dioxide while sleeping can die without experiencing any of the aforementioned symptoms.

Oregon instituted a requirement that single-family or multifamily rental housing units be equipped with carbon monoxide detectors (House Bill 3450, 2009). Oregon is one of 26 states that have CO detector requirements for residential dwellings in statute; an additional 11 states include the requirement in their state building code.

Senate Bill 112 establishes a requirement that food service facilities and for-profit businesses in enclosed structures with a carbon monoxide source be equipped with carbon monoxide alarms.